

A  
DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT  
OF THE



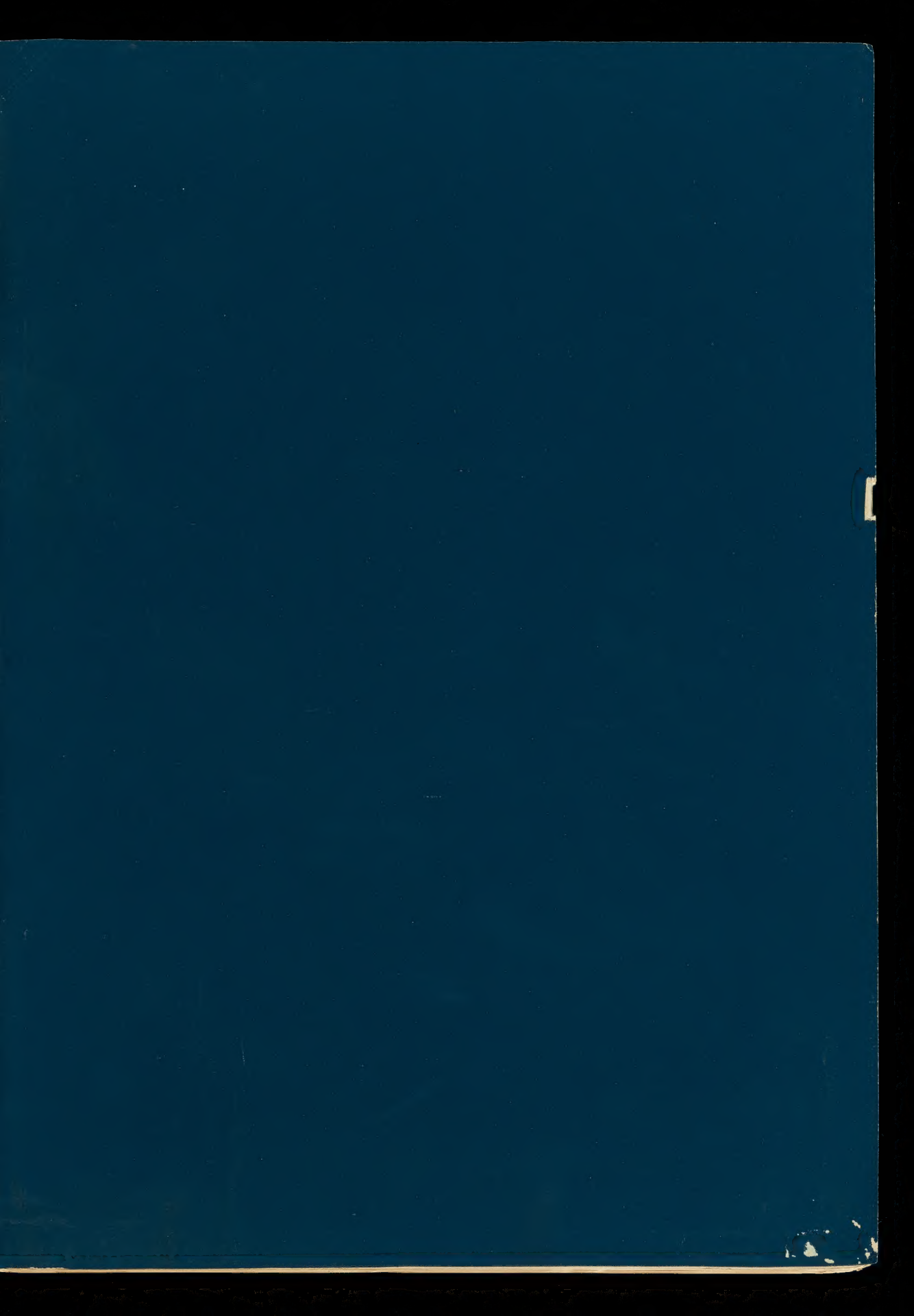
Guildhall  
*OF THE*  
CITY OF LONDON

1886.





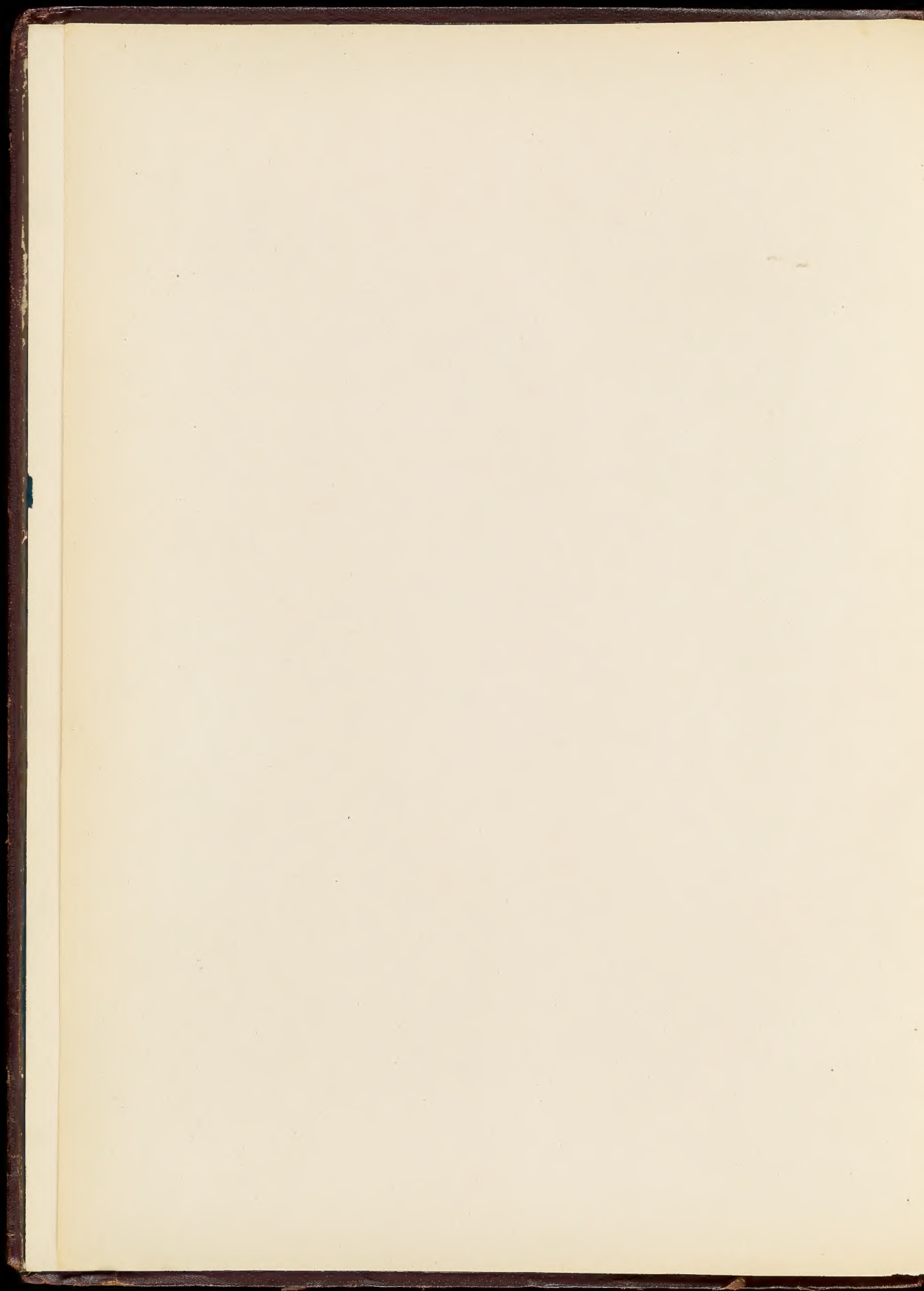
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A DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT  
OF THE  
GUILDHALL OF THE CITY OF LONDON:  
ITS  
HISTORY AND ASSOCIATIONS.

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COMPILED FROM ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS, WITH FAC-SIMILE CHARTERS, MAPS,  
AND OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS,

BY

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*Honorary Member of the Essex Archaeological Society, etc., etc.*

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1886.





## PREFACE.

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*At a meeting of the Court of Common Council held on 8th June, 1882, upon the motion of JOHN STAPLES, ESQ., F.S.A., Alderman, "It was resolved and ordered that it be referred to the Library Committee to take Plans and Drawings of such portions of the buildings of Guildhall as they may think it desirable to retain for preservation among the Archives of the Corporation."*

*The Committee met on the 20th June, 1882, to consider the above, when they referred the whole subject to a Deputation consisting of the CHAIRMAN, MR. ALDERMAN STAPLES, and GEORGE SHAW, ESQ., to carry out the project. The Deputation employed MR. HENRY HODGE to take the plans and drawings of such buildings as were about to be removed for the erection of the new Council Chamber, and likewise directed him to take drawings and dimensions of such ancient remains of the buildings as might be disclosed in the excavations.*

*This having been done, many interesting matters were brought to light, and there being no authentic history of the building or the alterations which have been made from time to time, it was determined by the Deputation to recommend the Committee to obtain power from the Court of Common Council to publish an Historical Description of the Guildhall. This was agreed upon, and on the 20th December, 1883, the Library Committee presented a report to the Court, "Recommending that an Historical Account to supplement such drawings, &c., be prepared." This being approved it was referred back to the Committee to carry out. The Deputation then applied to JOHN E. GARDNER, F.S.A., for permission to make a selection of drawings, &c., from his unique collection of London Topographical Illustrations, and to this request he readily and liberally assented, and copies of many of his valuable treasures are included in the present volume. The preparation of the various lithographs and fac-similes was entrusted to MR. W. GRIGGS. It having been decided subsequently to pull down the Court of Aldermen's Room together with the old Council Chamber, the services of MR. J. P. EMSLIE were engaged to make detailed water-colour drawings prior to their demolition. The work having so far advanced, tenders were invited for printing the letterpress, and that of MESSRS. BLADES, EAST & BLADES was accepted.*

*Honoured by the preparation of the text being entrusted to me, I have endeavoured, to the best of my ability, to fulfil my task. Dr. Johnson once said that "the difficulty of the first address on any new occasion is felt by every man in his transactions with the world." Though written upwards of a century ago, the words are as true now as when their author penned them, and are especially applicable in the present instance. With the exception of what has from time to time been gathered from the pages of John Stow, a History of the Guildhall has never been attempted; consequently to do justice to a subject of such interest, lengthened investigations have been necessary, not alone in the treasures possessed by the Corporation itself, but also in those preserved in the British Museum, the Public Record Office, and some of the Libraries at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. This involved a larger amount of time and labour than was at first in any way contemplated, which, with other causes, has delayed the completion of the work.*

*A mere architectural description of the building could have been dismissed in a few pages; for since the earliest records of the appearance of the Hall up to that which it now presents the alterations of real importance have been comparatively few, and could be briefly described. The true history of the Guildhall is rather to be traced in the numerous traditions and interesting associations, by which it is connected with the most important Corporation in the world. The stirring episodes, religious, political and social, with which the Hall has been associated for many centuries, clothe it with a far deeper interest than could any mere technical description of its walls, its masonry, painted glass, and sculpture with which it is adorned.*

*To prepare an exhaustive history, or one that would do full justice to the subject would involve a lengthened investigation of the civic records; these, happily, are well preserved and very numerous, the Letter Books, Journals and Repertories, ranging from the 13th century to the present time, to say nothing of the vast amount of valuable and curious information hidden in the Rolls of the Hustings Court. But the author of such a work, however industrious he might be, would require years to properly fulfil his task, and even then he could but add contributions to history, to be followed and completed by his successors. John Stow must be his model, who collected and accumulated as much as time and energy would allow, ever sensible of faults and deficiencies; but at the same time conscious that materials were being gained by which future students would be guided to sources previously not thought of, or unknown.*

*One other cause of delay in the issue of the work, and one deeply to be regretted, is that when the book was on the eve of completion, a disastrous fire occurred at the printing works of MESSRS. BLADES, EAST & BLADES, by which the whole of what had*



been already printed, together with some manuscript, was entirely destroyed. This accident unfortunately rendered it necessary for a part of the work to be re-written, and the whole of the illustrations to be re-engraved.

*In recognising the services rendered by numerous friends during the progress of the work I am sensible that I shall overlook many who have volunteered and rendered useful help. The Lord Mayor, JOHN STAPLES, ESQ., F.S.A., has from the first taken the warmest interest in its progress; for the ever ready and practical assistance of GEORGE SHAW, ESQ., I shall always feel deeply grateful; to W. H. OVERALL, F.S.A., the Librarian, my best thanks are due for valuable assistance and advice rendered by him from the beginning, as well as for the care and attention he has bestowed upon it generally. I am also much indebted to ALFRED WHITE, F.S.A., an authority on the history of early buildings; to the Vice Chancellor of the University of Oxford; to the authorities at the Bodleian Library, and those of the University at Cambridge; to the REV. R. H. CLUTTERBUCK, M.A.; to the HON. HAROLD DILLON, F.S.A.; to GEORGE SCHARF, F.S.A.; to EDWARD WILLIAM BRABROOK, F.S.A., and many others.*

*To conclude, I cannot do better than quote an extract from some recent sensible remarks made by a public writer, but with whose name I am unacquainted. "It may be hoped," he says, "that our great City rejoicing in its admirable administration, one not of mushroom growth but of gradual development, making in each particular stage from time to time progress and improvement, will continue to retain the charmed life which it has for so many centuries enjoyed, and be proof, as there is every reason to hope it may be, against the envious attacks of those who have ventured to assail it and its many time-honoured and revered traditions." There would even seem to be a sense of sorrow and contrition, if we may use the term, in the remarks made by Sir William Harcourt upon the introduction of the abandoned Municipal Bill of last year. While introducing the measure of so-called reform, he could not refrain from making some kind of apology for the existence of so wide spread a sentiment. "The extinction," said he, "of the Corporation of London would be a great shock to the sentiment of this country and the sentiment of this House. . . . There are no traditions more illustrious than those which cluster around the Guildhall. . . . I should be as adverse to destroying the Guildhall, as to destroying Westminster Hall or the Abbey."*

JOHN EDWARD PRICE.

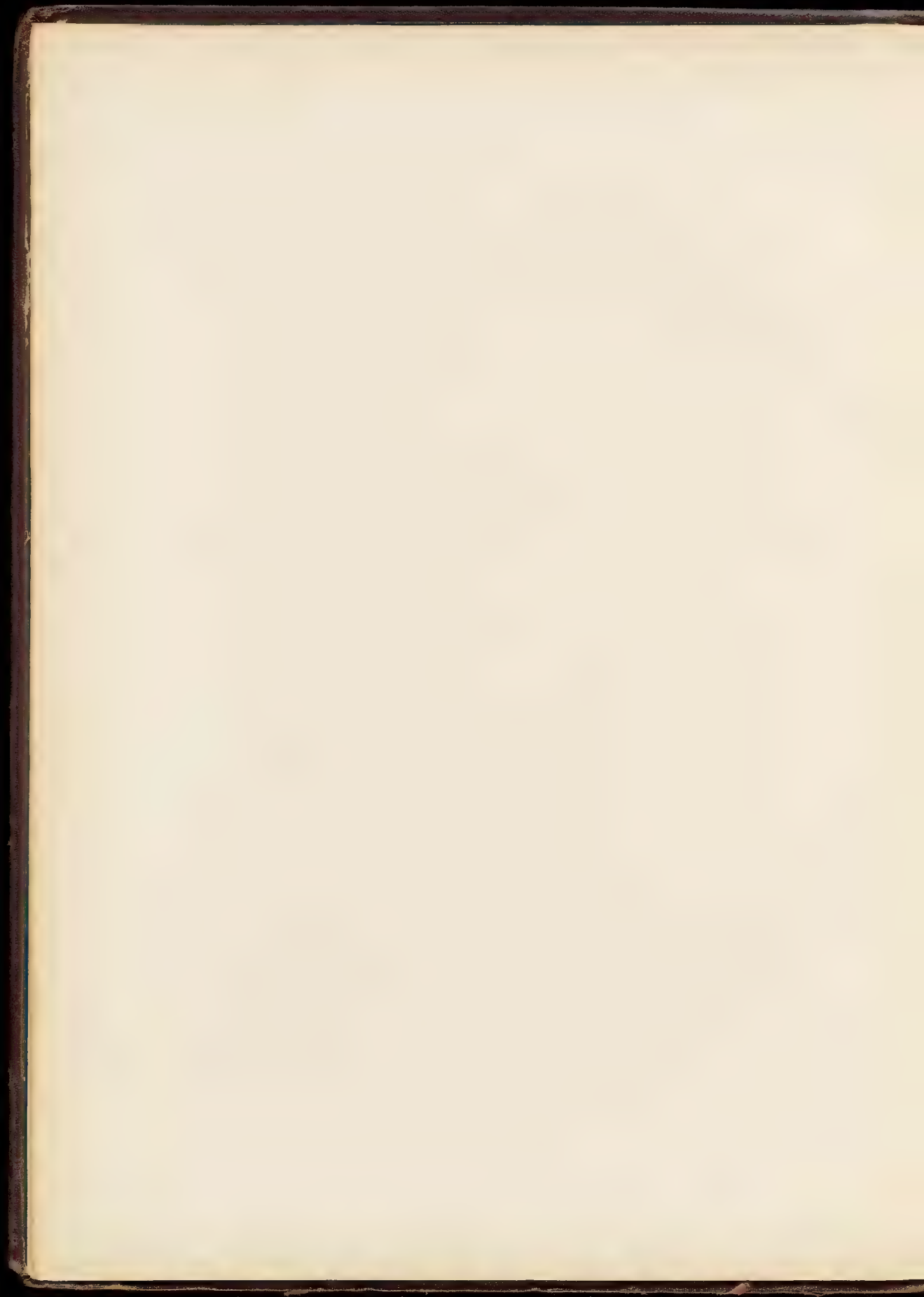
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THE  
GUILDHALL OF THE CITY OF LONDON:  
ITS  
HISTORY AND ASSOCIATIONS.

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GLoucester. "Go after, after, Consin Buckingham  
The Mayor towards Guildhall hies him in all post;  
There at your meetest vantage of the time  
Infer the bastardy of Edward's children;  
Tell them how Edward put to death a citizen  
Only for saying he would make his son  
'Heir to the Crown.' Meaning indeed his house,  
Which, by the sign thereof, was termed so."

BUCKINGHAM. " . . . . Towards three or four o'clock  
Look for the news that the Guildhall affords."

—Richard III (*Shakespeare*).

T is in the stirring language above quoted that our national dramatist refers to the existence of an important building within the precincts of the City, the historical description of which is attempted in the present work. Strange as it may seem, it is nevertheless true that while there is no public edifice that for so many centuries has been more identified with the fortunes of the City than has its Guildhall,<sup>1</sup> yet there is no existing structure, ecclesiastical or civil, which appears to have received so little attention at the hands of the antiquarian enquirer. Associated it has been in one way or another with almost every occurrence of importance belonging to the history of this country, whether such be related to Royalty, Politics, Law, Commerce, or Public Ceremonial,—and whether we contemplate its connection

Introduction.

<sup>1</sup> A singular error with respect to the first mention of Guildhall appears in what is in many respects a work of considerable ability. In the "History of the Boroughs and Municipal Corporations of the United Kingdom," by Henry A. Merewether, Barrister-at-Law (and subsequently Town Clerk), and A. J. Stephens, F.R.S., Barrister-at-Law, we read, "It is a common opinion that the possession of a Guildhall is, in some undefined manner, proof of the existence of a Corporation, but no one has condescended to reduce this proposition into any tangible shape or to point out in what manner these two things are connected; but like many other erroneous suppositions of the kind it is left to support itself. A contrary position can easily be established by historical and documentary proof: thus we have incontrovertibly established that there were no Municipal Corporations at the period of which we are now writing—and yet Dover has a *Guildhall* recorded in Domesday. On the other hand, *the City of London continued without one until this reign, Henry VI*" (1410).

with the incident chronicled by Shakespeare, with the sometimes turbulent gatherings, or at others, gorgeous pageants of the Middle Ages, the trials of Lady Jane Grey, her ill-fated husband and the aged Cranmer, with others to be noted, onwards to the peaceful and influential meetings of our own time,—the edifice is one which with the citizens of London must ever command an interest unsurpassed by any other of their public buildings. That so little should have been written respecting it is singular, but the explanation is probably to be sought for in the circumstance that there is so little accessible literature existing concerning it; indeed, with the exception of the information collected by that enthusiastic and ever-to-be-remembered lover of London history, John Stow, there is scarcely anything on record, for the references and descriptions recorded in our modern histories have in one form or another been principally taken from his work; and even he, when we consider that he had full access to the archives of the Corporation, would seem to have made but slight use of the privilege he enjoyed.

To fully appreciate the historical interest of the Guildhall and its surroundings, it is necessary to devote a brief consideration to the origin and development of that municipal life which has made the City what it is; and to study a little the history of our country and its capital, at a period not only prior to the investigations of Stow and other writers, but of one long anterior to the existence of the City archives themselves. London, as a great mercantile centre, has enjoyed a career differing in many ways from almost all the large towns and cities of this country—its history is all but unique, its origin is well known, and the antiquity and manner of its foundation has, of late years, been made clear by the patient study and investigation pursued by more than one of the leading antiquaries of our day. The dignified position, which it has ever held, as the capital of this country, and its vast and continued increase in wealth and importance, point to a condition unmatched and unequalled by any other of our municipal towns. Mr. Loftie, in his recent history,<sup>1</sup> remarks that London is *not* the capital of England, but if it be not, it would be difficult to point out which city is. As long since as the days of Cornelius Tacitus<sup>2</sup> London was “most celebrated for its merchants and trade,”<sup>3</sup> and it was sufficiently populous in the first century, the period of which the historian writes, to contribute no mean number to the 70,000 citizens and others who were slain in the reign of Nero in the insurrection under the British Queen Boadicea. If Rome be the capital City of Italy, Londinium would take the same position in Britain. If otherwise, we should hardly find so many of the great roads constructed in this country during the Imperial rule terminating at the walls of London; for no less than nine out of sixteen of the various routes extend from the metropolis to different places in the south of Britain.

Its gradual advance, moreover, as the centre and focus of trade and commerce is indicated at a later period. It is mentioned as Londinium in the fourth century, and still later, viz., in the reign of Valentinian, it becomes dignified with the additional

<sup>1</sup> “A History of London,” by W. J. Loftie, F.S.A., vol. i, p. 76.

<sup>2</sup> “At Suetonius mira constantia medios inter hostes Londinium perrexit cognomento quidem Coloniae non insignis, sed copia negotiatorum et commeatuum maxime celebre.”—“Taciti Annalium,” lib. 14, c. 33.

<sup>3</sup> This extraordinary pre-eminence of London was sufficient even in the twelfth century to call forth the admiration of the Norman chronicler. Fitzstephen, who must in his day have been familiar with the many changes which led up to the Norman Conquest, thus speaks of the commercial greatness of the city: “To this city, from every nation under heaven, merchants bring their commodities by sea.”



title of Augusta, York meanwhile representing to a great extent the home of regal power, the seat of Imperial Government and rule. Under the title of Augusta, London is referred to in the "Notitia," (a document descriptive of Britain, which was compiled at the close of the Roman occupation), as the actual seat of the Imperial Treasury for all Britain. In this document two officials are referred to, both of whom were subject and subordinate to the official government at Rome; one as an Accountant-General, who is styled "The Rational of the sums of all Britain" (*Britanniarum*), and the other "The Provost of the Treasures of Augusta in Britain." London was thus an Imperial City, and one enjoying the rights, laws and institutions which it was customary to grant to other of the colonies and municipalities founded by the Empire. At the time when Britain became a Roman Province the management of the country was delegated to an official who was known as the *Prætor* or *Proprætor*; his position, as far as we can gather from inscriptions and other records, was that of a Governor, Ambassador, or Vice-General of the Emperor, in other words, a "*Legatus Augusti*." The first who ruled in Britain was Aulus Plautius, who accompanied Claudius at the time of his expedition, and there are monuments extant which refer to his successors and to the Emperors in whose reign they lived. There is little doubt that this official resided in London, from the circumstance of so many tiles having been discovered in City excavations with letters upon them, such as PRB. LON., P. BRI. LON., P. PR. LON., &c. These have, and doubtless correctly, been interpreted as referring to the "*Proprætor of Britain at Londinium*," or they may be extended as *Præses* or *Proprætor Provinciæ Britannî Londini*, but the meaning is practically the same. Within the last few years the extensive works on the site of Leadenhall market led to the discovery of foundations belonging to a building or buildings of the Roman period. These were of vast extent, and covered a considerable area. The thickness of the walls, the style of masonry, and the early character of the work, indicated that the spacious building had belonged—as indeed did the immediate locality—to one of the most important sites connected with Roman London. It is at the part of the City, east of the Walbrook, that the remains of the early settlement are in abundance, and it is here that the great evidence exists of this district being the first that was settled and populated by the Roman colonists, the western extension of the City being gradual and associated with a later time. In one portion of the foundations referred to, there appeared a mass of brickwork, with no stone, but composed entirely of red tiles, a rare circumstance in the construction of Roman buildings in this country; some portion of this interesting piece of work has been enclosed and preserved by the Corporation of London, as an interesting memorial of the discoveries. In that removed, several tiles, such as those referred to had been worked in, a proof that the building was associated with the Imperial Government, and the inference is, that here was the residence of the *Prætor*, or Governor, of the time; this is the more probable from the fact of the site of Leadenhall having always been the property of the Corporation, and it is further recorded that in early times the building itself was occasionally used as a Court of Justice. There is mention of this in the Civic records<sup>1</sup> as early as the beginning of the fourteenth century, and at the close of the year 1326. At the time of the flight of Edward II, the Commons of London met at Leadenhall when making terms with the Constable of the Tower.

<sup>1</sup> "Liber de Antiq. Legibus," fol. 61. "French Chronicle of London." Translation, p. 264.

In addition to the headquarters of the Roman governors being situate in the City, it may be inferred that in common with other *Coloniae, municipia, or prefecturae*, or under whatever name such organisations were described, the City possessed a jurisdiction of its own, apart from the authority of the superior power. The present mayoralty, the Aldermen and the Sheriffs, may in their official capacity trace a descent from the settled institutions of Rome, and find the prototypes of their various duties in those at one time exercised and practised by the *prefectus urbi*, and the *curiales* and *decuriones* of the Italian cities. The prefect was a magistrate; he was custodian of the City; he regulated, moreover, the laws in connection with the markets and trade; he had the superintendence of the various arrangements necessary to the protection of the inhabitants, and as a guardian of the peace he kept up an establishment of *Milites stationarii*, the precursors of our modern police, officials originally instituted by Augustus, and a force which is said to have supplied the germ of the English Hundred and Tithing, two territorial institutions connected with our country which up to the time of William IV are said to have supplied the police for the respective counties. The *prefectus*, moreover, was, as with our own Lord Mayor, the medium through which the monarch held communication with the citizens of his capital. In later times his authority became extended; the term of office was sometimes for several years, at times for life; after the time of Valerian a new prefect was appointed every year. With ourselves a similar position has existed. Our mayoralty, under such a designation, appears to have been first inaugurated in the year 1189. Henry Fitz-Alwyn,<sup>1</sup> or Ailwin, was elected to the office and continued to hold it for an uninterrupted period of twenty-four years, but in the year 1592 a decree was made that no individual should act as Lord Mayor of London for more than one year. In the survival of Roman institutions, modified and changed as years went on, we trace the analogy between our Bailiffs and Aldermen, and the Duumvirs and Decurions of old, as they in their turn resembled the official Consul and Senate. The Duumvir continued in office for a year, had insignia and fasces, the forerunner, doubtless, of our civic maces.<sup>2</sup> He was elected by the magistrates at their own peril, they being responsible for the election at the proper time, though nominated by the

<sup>1</sup> Henry, the son of Alwyn, or rather Fitz-Alwyn de Londone Stane, was re-elected to the office from year to year from 1189 to 1212 respectively. This celebrated man, for such he must have been to have enjoyed such popularity and favour among his brethren for the space of twenty-four years, is claimed by the Company of Drapers as a member of their Guild. This has been sometimes discredited by modern historians, but the traditions of the Company point to the accuracy of the statement. I am informed by W. P. Sawyer, Esq., Clerk to the Company, who has recently collected some highly interesting facts in connection with its history, that "they possess a certificate by William Camden, Clarencieux King of Arms, certifying the Arms borne by Henry Fitz Alwin, Mayor 1189-1212, and that he was a member of the Drapers' Company." It has been noted by Mr. Loftie that there is no evidence of the separation between the Drapers or *Pannarii* from the *Cissores*, or tailors, prior to the year 1299, when the records of the tailors commence. ["History of London," by W. J. Loftie, F.S.A., p. 170.] Mr. Sawyer, however, quotes a reference which is worthy of credence, to the effect that the "Gilda Pannariorum, whereof John Maur was Alderman, was among the Adulterine Guilds amerced in the year 1180, viz., 27 Henry II."

<sup>2</sup> "The privilege of having gold or silver maces carried before the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London was not granted until the reign of Edward III, and there is no doubt that we owe the existence of this municipal privilege to our Norman sovereigns. But in representing the authority of the central government, it undoubtedly carries us back, by analogy at all events, to the Roman municipal constitution, which was so elaborate in its ceremonial detail. We may have borrowed the mace from France, as we did the word by which it is known (French *masse*, Latin *mace*), but we were quite ready to receive its symbolism and to make it fit in with the general system surrounding it, and, as a matter of fact, the older system is represented not by the mace, but by the sword and the dragon. The latter the late Mr. Coote has identified as Roman, at least as the war standard of the West Saxons, and the former was equally of Roman origin, representing the old criminal jurisdiction of the municipalities."—See "Index of Municipal Offices," by G. L. Gomme, F.S.A., p. 18. Also Coote's "Romans of Britain," pp. 432, 433.

voice and suffrages of the people ; they were to be elected two or three months before they assumed the responsibilities of office. Once elected, they were liable to punishment if they refused to take the burden of office upon them. With respect to the analogies between the Municipal Corporations of the Roman towns and the Roman Senate, it was acknowledged by the ancients themselves. One of the Emperors refers to them in certain of his laws, styling them "the heart of the cities and the sinews of the Republic."<sup>1</sup>

In the third century, viz., in the year A.D. 250, there were no less than fifty-nine cities in Roman Britain : this is an illustration of the progress made by Imperial colonisation. At the time when the occupation ceased and the independence of Britain had been proclaimed by Honorius they were probably many more, and it must be borne in mind that these municipalities had been founded and consolidated in accordance with unvarying law and custom. Their institutions and the responsibilities and obligations of their citizens were based and settled on a system common alike to London and to Rome, and that these should, after a growth and development extending over four hundred years, be eradicated and effaced by the withdrawal of the Roman legions and the first shocks of barbaric invasion, is an opinion fallacious in the extreme. The descendants of the colonists were enabled to retain their lands, their religion, the rights and privileges which they had enjoyed and still were able to exercise their capacity for government, trade and commerce. There is evidence to this effect—that even in the twelfth century the citizens so far from admitting that their rights and privileges were due to William the Conqueror, attributed them to the early settlement of their City, which they even associated with the first foundation of Rome.<sup>2</sup>

Survival of  
Municipal  
Institutions.

That the municipal institutions involved in Corporations of Roman origin survived and outlived the Saxon conquests is further corroborated by an important illustration of what took place in the neighbouring province of Gaul, a district which in so many ways provides us with analogies to our own. In Gaul their succession appears to have been uninterrupted—the Roman feeling, its past influence, and the impress of its power is indelibly fixed upon the proceedings of successive centuries. Mons. M. Raynouard has shown the existence in the ninth century of a monument in France which affords such evidence as would seem to be conclusive. It is of the year 804 and of the closing reign of Charlemagne. So important is it that the writer introduces it to notice with the following forcible observation : "Un monument précieux, qui démontre que les formes du droit municipal établies par les romaines continuaient d'être observées dans le neuvième siècle." "Devant le vénérable Ulfred, DÉFENSEUR, et toute la CURIE d'Angers, Agambert a dit. Je vous prie, honorable DÉFENSEUR, et vous OFFICIERS PUBLICS, d'ordonner qu'on m'ouvre les registres, je demande l'insertion d'un titre aux ACTES MUNICIPAUX." L'insertion alien dans les formes accoutumées. Le défenseur poursuit, "Quand l'acte aura été écrit par nous et souscrit par les CURIALES, ou vous le livrera authentique, selon la coutume."

"Here," says our author, is "une autorité très-précise, très-décisive." A further

<sup>1</sup> "Sigonius de jure Italico," lib. 2, c. 8. See also prefix to Theodosian Code, lib. 12, tit. 1 ; Gibbons' "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," vol. iii, p. 456.

<sup>2</sup> Et dicebant cives Landonienses fuisse quietos de theloneo in omni foro et semper et ubique. Per totam Angliam, a tempore quo Roma prima fundatur fuit, et civitatem Landoniæ eodem tempore fundatam.—*Joscelino de Brakelonde*, p. 56.



illustration, if one be needed, occurs among the articles of the Council held at Arles in the year 813, the last year in the reign of Charlemagne. This particular article is to enable the magistrates and others to employ even violence or other stringent means necessary for ensuring the rights and well-being of the poorer classes, and it says, "Si quelqu'un veut vendre ou acheter un domaine, il doit le faire devant le comte, les juges et les nobles de la cité." Ces juges ne sont-ce pas les échevins? Ces nobles, ne sont-ce pas les curiales, les magistrats du corps municipal?"<sup>1</sup> The official here referred to as the *Defenseur* is a descendant of the *Defensor civitatis* of old. It was this official who, in the early municipalities, at times took precedence of the *Duumvirs* and other of the Civic functionaries. Up to the reign of Constantine he obtained office through election by the Decurions<sup>2</sup> and the suffrages of the City generally, but this Emperor authorised an ordinance for the repression of certain abuses in this country by which the City, through its representative, could, if necessary, be protected against the oppression of the autocratical power of the *Præses* or chief Governor of the Province, under the title of "Defensor." We have no inscriptions on record which point to the presence of this official in Roman Britain; but in the existence of this ordinance and in the analogies existing between the municipal institutions of our country, and those preserved in the sister provinces in Gaul, we have sufficient for the purpose. Associated with details of law and government there was, however, an official who is met with at the disruption of the Empire, viz., the *Comes Civitatis*. At this period there was a species of interregnum in the country; for a time it possessed no recognised chief or governor in connection with Rome. With the withdrawal of military rule, the towns and cities of Britain were left to a great extent to develop for themselves those institutions which it had taken so long to create and foster. To quote an edict issued by the Emperor Honorius in the early part of the fifth century, "They were monished to protect themselves."<sup>3</sup> A provisional officer was, in consequence, appointed in each town, and invested with such authority as would enable him to act in all matters connected with the interest of the City and the population generally; he it was who is styled the *Comes Civitatis*, and his presence and the importance of his position was at once recognised by the Saxons as one which it was desirable to retain. The office was not abolished; it is only in name that we discern the change. In place of *Comes* we have *Ealdorman*, and it is naturally under this Teutonic rendering that we see the survival and continuance of a position which, as might be expected, subsequently became soon filled by Anglo-Saxon officials. As the acting representative in the City, William the

<sup>1</sup> "Histoire du Droit Municipal en France" par M. Raynouard, tome première, Paris, 1829, page 327. Cod. Theod. xi, tit. 7, 2.

<sup>2</sup> Two inscriptions at least may be quoted commemorative of such officials in connection with this country, the first, on a sarcophagus found at York:

D. M.  
FL. VI. BELLATORIS. DEC. COL. EBORACENS  
VIXIT ANNOS XXVIII MENS. . . . .

which may be extended as *Dis Manibus Flavii Bellatoris Decurionis Colonia Eboracensis vixit Annos xxviii. menses, viz., To the Divine Shades of Flavius Bellator a Decurion of the Eboracensian Colony who lived 29 years. . . . . months, etc.* The second was discovered at Bath, and refers to a similar official who was connected with Gloucester, the *Glevum* of the Romans. It reads—

DEC. COLONIAE GLEV. VIXIT. AN. LXXXVI.

Though the name of the individual has perished, the inscription refers to a venerable Alderman who had evidently journeyed to Bath to test the advantages of its medicinal waters.

<sup>3</sup> Zosimus 6, 10.

Conqueror took note of the *Portgrave*,<sup>1</sup> the first portion of which word relates to the place itself, and the second refers to the presidential authority exercised over it, *Grave* having the same significance in the Saxon or German tongue as *Comes* in Latin. The latter designation, familiar in institutions of Norman introduction, refers to no other than the same officer who possessed jurisdiction over a district representing the *territorium* of Roman origin, and which in Saxon times became associated with him under the Germanic terms "scyr," or shire.

Under the Saxon organisation the *Portgrave*, or *Portgerefa*, was the chief magistrate, and indeed the head of the municipality; and it is the position that he held which subsequently became developed into the *mayoralty* of Norman times. This word undoubtedly comes from France. The earliest spelling is "meyres," or "meires," in the vision of Piers Plowman. Sir Thomas More spells it "Maire," and Fabyan "Mayre," and it is not until the time of Roger Bacon that we find it written "major" "maioralitie," giving the idea that the word was borrowed from the Latin "major," instead of through the French "majeur," from the Latin accusative "majorem."<sup>2</sup> It is such an official that is referred to in the oft-quoted Charter granted to the citizens of London by the Conqueror. The late Mr. W. H. Black, F.S.A.,<sup>3</sup> who has published a complete transcript of the original, remarks that it is not so much a Charter as one of two Writs of that King in which the Bishop appears as ecclesiastical governor, and the *Gerefa* or *Reeve*, as civil governor. It reads "Willelm Kyng gret Willelm Biscoep, and Gosfredgh *Portrefan*, and ealle the *Burhwaru*, binnan Londone Frencise and Englisce, freondlice." "I, King William, greet William the Bishop, and Gosfredgh the *Portreeve*, and all the *Boroughwaru* within London, French and English friendly." The *Burhwaru*, or *Boroughwaru*, can refer to no other than the municipal body; for in the Saxon Chronicle, under the year 1013, an association between such a corporation and that belonging to Oxford, is referred to in a like way. Two years later the *Witenagemote*, or Saxon Parliament, is called together at the latter place. In the original MS. the words are *Seo-Burhwaru* in both cases with a singular verb, which, with the prepositive article of the feminine gender, is equivalent to the word "corporation," or "township." The burgesses, or inhabitants, are so mentioned in the plural number. At the conclusion of this missive from the Conqueror, appear the significant words—"I certify you that I will that ye be worthy (or rightly possessed) of all those laws, which ye were in King Edward's day. And I will that each child be his father's heir, after his father's day. And I will not suffer that any man bid (command or threaten) you any wrong. God hold you." These *Burhwaru*, or burgesses, to which the King alludes, were naturally of two classes. For example, there would be the representatives of wealth and influence, the proprietors of land, and the descendants of an ancient and powerful race,—one with a long and interesting pedigree. These would be represented by the Barons of the City—in other words, the Court of Aldermen—and the great civic magnates of the time. The other class would comprise the main body of the citizens, also the lineal successors of a mixed and composite community—

The  
Mayoralty.

<sup>1</sup> "Liber Custumarum," fol. 187.

<sup>2</sup> See "Index of Municipal Offices," by G. L. Gomme, Esq., F.S.A., p. 10.

<sup>3</sup> "History and Antiquities of the Worshipful Company of Leathersellers," by W. H. Black, F.S.A., 1871, p. 6.

the multitude, indeed, made up of individuals who were themselves doubtless divided into more or less distinctive classes. Our City, so to speak, was in a sense a "commune," or "republic,"<sup>1</sup> subject certainly to some authoritative power, but possessing so firm a grasp upon its early rights and privileges, institutions so deeply rooted and secured, that William, one of the most daring and powerful of the ruling princes of his time, saw (politically speaking) the wisdom of showing them respect; and in addition to other concessions which were granted in later times, it is interesting to note that he was enabled to see the advantages which he would derive at the inauguration of his dynasty by conferring on the Londoners a ratification of this most important kind, and one which enabled them to cherish and continue that respect for self-government which they had enjoyed in and before the days of Edward the Confessor.

In addition to the officials mentioned in this Writ, others who were associated with Edward's reign may be referred to, viz.: Wolgar, with Bishop Alfwar and Swerman, and the Bishop above-named, who held the See of London from the years 1051 to 1075; and prior to this time there is mention of the Kings *wic-gerefa* in Lundenwic, as noted in the laws of two Kentish Kings of the seventh century, and the *port-gerefa* who was required to witness mercantile transactions within the port or city by the laws of King Edward the Elder.<sup>2</sup> A further example of the uninterrupted succession of such appointments is to be met with in the history of Oxford: there the jurisdiction of such officials was unaffected by the Norman Conquest. The common pasturage at Port Meadow, together with many other old and recognised privileges, find mention in Domesday;—the internal jurisdiction of the classic city is even now practically the same as in these early times. In its ancient deeds and Charters the words "Port-mole," a "Gildhall" and a Husting Court are familiar terms. The actual word "Mayor" does not occur until after the Conquest, but it is simply a substitution of words; the same official was previously known as the "*Port-gerefa*" or "*Port-reeve*." He in early times had been but little more than the nominee of the King; whereas, with later rule, and under a new and more extended title, he became the elected and chosen representative of the citizens themselves. At the same time an official, subject to the authority of the Mayor, and still known as the "Port-reeve," was appointed by the Crown until the first year of King John's accession. It was the latter who conceded the right of election to the citizens, who hereafter—and, indeed, up to the present day—have appointed such an officer under the modern name of Sheriff. We have remarked that our Mayoralty is first so mentioned in the year 1189, but the City of Oxford can boast of its chief magistrate being so styled nearly ten years earlier. The words "*Maiore Oxon*" occur in a

<sup>1</sup> Such was the position in the year 1214 when the first Charter was granted by King John, enabling the Barons of the City of London to choose their own mayor from among themselves. He was to be a trusty man, discreet and proper. Provided always that when so elected he should be presented unto his lordship the King, or, in the King's absence, unto his justiciar, &c.; and, further, that the said citizens shall have well and in peace, freely, quietly, and wholly, all their liberties which they have hitherto enjoyed, as well in the City of London as without, and as well by water as by land. ["*Liber Albus*," book ii, fol. 416.] Subsequently, there appears a charter of Henry III in which the foregoing is confirmed, with the addition that at the end of the year it shall be lawful for the citizens to remove such mayor and substitute another, if they please, or retain the same mayor, provided, however, "that the same be shown to us or unto our justiciar if we shall not be present."

<sup>2</sup> A.D. 901-924. Lambard, 1568, ff. 46 and 47.



curious record associated with Osney Abbey, which belongs to the year 1180,<sup>1</sup> and as this is about the period when the word appears in our own history, it is in all probability of Norman introduction, when the old names of "Port-reeve," "Provost-reeve," and other variations, which had been derived from the "Prefectus" of Rome, gave way; in fact, became superseded by the Norman title. On the Continent, also, we meet with the equivalent to Prefectus in the official recognised as *Préfet de Ville* in the civil economy of modern France.

In his interesting "History of the City of Oxford,"<sup>2</sup> whence the above is quoted, the Rev. Sir J. Peshall, Bart., remarks that the word *Præpositus* signifies a Ruler or Chief Municipal Magistrate in a community. The Provost was to preside at the City Courts, to decide differences relative to trade and merchandise, to take cognisance of the affairs of the constituents, punish delinquents, and to enjoy, in short, much the same privileges as Kings in their Grants or Charters gave, or rather confirmed, in after times. The Provosts of Edinburgh, Paris and Lyons have the same duties to perform at the present day.

As a striking illustration of the influence possessed by the Portreeve prior to the institution of the Mayoralty, reference may be made to the position of Gilbert Beket, the father of the celebrated Thomas of Canterbury, who, when speaking of his parentage, was accustomed to boast of his father as a "citizen living without blame among his fellow citizens." Gilbert Beket had served the office of *Gerefa* of London; he held large property within its walls; he belonged to the middle class, was a successful man and is said to have neither lent money at interest nor traded professionally, but lived worshipfully upon the rents of his own lands, and so greatly was he esteemed, that for a long time after his death an annual visit was paid by each chief magistrate elected to the tomb in the Chapel which he had founded at St. Paul's.<sup>3</sup> At this time, and long before, the burgesses were in many cases large land-owners: a desire to obtain a vested interest in the soil was an inheritance of long standing. The Roman aristocracy, it is true, had a certain contempt of trade and its alliances, but to be a landed proprietor was always an ideal with the gentleman of Rome. If business upon a large scale had been so conducted as to have ensured prosperity, the most respectable investment for surplus profits was looked upon as land,<sup>4</sup> and thus in the purchase of an estate the

<sup>1</sup> NOTE.—Notum sit omnib, quod inter W. Kynthe de Oxon de una parte et fratrem Philip, priorem Monasterii St. Frid, Oxon et ejusd conven et altera; convenit in hunc modum etc in cuj, rei fest, ego Willus, sigillum meum apposui, et quoniam sigillum meum plurib, est incognitum sigillum *Maioratus* Oxon, apponi procuravi. His Test, Petro fil, Toroldi *Maiore Oxon*, Adam fil. Walter et Alewy Diapero tunc præpositis etc. (Ex Lib. Osm. penes, Ædi Christi.) There is further a reference to such an official of even earlier date. In Lib. Assiz, written in Norman French, wherein is alleged a clause out of an ancient charter of Oxford, signed H. . . . *nisi illi tangat nos aut Comitum illius Comitatus*, which refers to the time when the City was under the jurisdiction of the Earls of Oxford. A MS. in Wood's Library supposes him to be Harold. (See Wood's Hist. Univ., Anno 1198.)

<sup>2</sup> Page 339.

<sup>3</sup> See "Liber Albus," p. 26; also Fitzstephen (Dr. Giles' Edition), p. 183: "Civibus Londinæ mediastinus, neque feneratoribus neque officiosis negotiatoribus sed de redditibus suis honorifice viventibus"; also "London and her Election of Stephen," by Rev. J. R. Green, Archaeological Institute, July, 1866.

<sup>4</sup> See Cicero, "De Officiis," also "Archæol. Zeit.," tome xvii, p. 177, 1850.



proprietor could ensure an ownership in the soil. The wealthy burgesses of London accordingly had their residence and business in the City, and at the same time gradually accumulated property in the surrounding shire or *territorium* of Middlesex, leaving their stewards to enjoy the residence and charge of the country house. That this was the practice under the Saxon rule is well known. The established citizens would continue their occupation of the large commercial towns, while the German settlers, whose national tastes and habits were averse to the restrictions of a town life, sought residence in the country. As time rolled on, Roman and Teuton naturally became more amalgamated, and the growing connection and association between the two laid the foundations of the present constitution.

There can be little doubt that Gilbert Beket was one of a long succession of prosperous and wealthy burghers, who added to the prestige of the City by taking an active and prominent part in municipal matters. Stow<sup>1</sup> gives an interesting list of the Portgraves, Provosts, &c., which includes the names of Henry Cornhill and Richard Fitzreiner, Bailiffs or Sheriffs in 1189, the latter of whom, as we are informed, gave from his estates in Aldermanbury, portion of the land on which the first Guildhall was built. Of this distinguished citizen, we shall have more to say hereafter.

The learned Bishop of Chester has remarked in his "Constitutional History"<sup>2</sup> and elsewhere, that during the Norman period, London was governed like a shire, and was a collection of small Communities, Manors, Parishes, Church Sokens and Guilds; that it contained Manors which descended by inheritance, or were held by Corporate bodies, like the Chapter of St. Paul's, or the various Guilds; and that the Lords of such Franchises, the Prelates of the Churches, and even the Aldermen of Guilds, might bear the title of Barons.

This latter title, as affixed to the Court of Aldermen, survives in the inscription still extant on the Common Seal of the Corporation. The words are brief but expressive. SIGILLUM BARONUM LONDONIARUM. *The Seal of the Barons of London.* It is true that the present Seal belongs to the time of Henry VIII, but the inscription is a survival and of remote antiquity. It encloses a view of the City. In the centre appears a gate, generally considered as Ludgate, from the close association with St. Paul, who is depicted as bearing the emblematical sword in one hand, and in the other, a standard or flag charged with three lions of England. There are other figures, viz., those of church towers and castellated buildings. In the year 1285, in the Mayoralty of Gregory Rokeslee, it was customary for the Mayor to carry the Common Seal with him. "*Et tradidit Sigillum Commune Civitatis*" appears in an interesting series of Chronicles of the time.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i, p. 407.

<sup>2</sup> Unde et Adhuc antiquis eisdem utuntur legibus communibus institutis Hæc etiam similiter illi *regionibus et distincta.* See Fitzstephen, Stow's Survey, Thoms' Edition, p. 212.

<sup>3</sup> These Chronicles perished in the fire at the Cotton Library, 1731 but they had fortunately been transcribed for the use of John Bridges, Esq. They record the remarkable events which happened throughout the kingdom, and appear to have been the work of the Town Clerk or Registrar of the Corporation at this period. See "Annales Anglia," Anno 1195-1316. MS. Add. 5444, p. 95.

There is mention later on in the City archives<sup>1</sup> of an addition to the Seal in the reign of Edward III, viz., A.D. 1376. A further alteration was made after the revival of the Protestant religion, since which time there appears to have been no other change. The order for the substitution of the City Arms, in place of the figure of Thomas-a-Beket, is thus recited in the City records. 1530.—28 September.—31 Henry VIII.—“And for as muche as the Comon Seale of thys Cytye ys made w<sup>t</sup> the Image of Thomas Beket late Archebysshop of Canterbury and all suche Images ought by the Kynges Highnesse pclamacon to be alteryd chaungyd and abolysshed w<sup>yn</sup> all hys domynyons. Wherefore nowe y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>s</sup> enactyd establysshed that the sayd comon Seale shalbe alteryd and changed. And th’ Armes of thys cytye to be made yn the place of the sayd Thomas Bekket on the one syde, and on the other syde the Image of Saynt Powle as hath bene accustomed. And all w<sup>tynges</sup> hereafter to be ensealyd w<sup>t</sup> the sayd newe comon Seale shalbe good and effectuell yn the Lawe any use custome or usage to the contrary hereof notw<sup>ist</sup>standing, And all other w<sup>tynges</sup> afore thys time ensealyd under the sayd olde comon Seale shall remain yn as full strength and v<sup>tue</sup> as they were at any tyme afore the makyng of thys Acte.”<sup>2</sup> It appears that under the presidency of John Warde, Mayor in that year, and in a large assembly of the Court, there was by common assent added to the Seal a certain sign called a *molet*, a figure resembling a star, or the rowel of a spur, and the same was placed within the *porta* or gate which appears beneath the feet of St. Paul. The Seal of the Mayoralty is of equal interest. It belongs to the time of Sir William Walworth, and is carefully described in the civic records of his day. On the 17th April<sup>3</sup> in the year 1381, in the reign of Richard II, it is recorded that in full congregation holden in the Upper Chamber of the Guildhall of London, and summoned by William Walworth the then Mayor, as well as those who then were Aldermen, as of those who had been, &c., it was by common assent agreed and ordered that the old Seal<sup>4</sup> of the office of Mayoralty of the said City should be broken, seeing that it was too small, rude and ancient, and was unbecoming and derogatory from the honour of the City; and that another new Seal, of honourable aspect and a work of art, which the said Mayor had had made, should in future be used for that office in place of the other. In which new Seal, besides the figures of Peter and Paul, which in the old one are rudely made, beneath the feet of the said figures a shield for the Arms of the said City is perfectly graven, with two lions guardant: two serjeants-at-arms being above (one) on either side, and two pavilions (*tabernacula*), in which there are two angels standing above; and between the two figures of Peter and Paul the figure of the glorious “Virgin is seated.” The record continues:—“Therefore the old Seal of the office of the Mayoralty was then delivered to Richard Odyham the Chamberlain, who broke it and in its place the said new Seal was delivered to the Mayor, to use the same according as his office of the Mayoralty should demand and require.”

The association of this Seal with the career of the celebrated Walworth, has led to the error which is still propagated from time to time, viz.: that the dagger in the City shield was added thereto by Richard II in commemoration of Wat Tyler’s insurrection and the death of the rebel in Smithfield by the hand of the valiant Mayor. A belief in this

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book H, fol. 44.

<sup>2</sup> Journal 14, fol. 158 b.

<sup>3</sup> Letter Book F, fol. 132.

<sup>4</sup> This seal dates back to the reign of Henry III, 1216–72.

tradition has no doubt been fostered by the inscription still perpetuated on the statue of Sir William Walworth which is preserved on the staircase at Fishmongers' Hall :

17th April  
1381.

Brave Walworth, Knight, Lord Mayor y<sup>e</sup> Slew  
Rebellious TYLER in his Alarmes ;  
The KING, therefore did give in LIEU  
The Dagger to the Cityes armes.  
In the 4th Year of Richard II *Anno Domini* 1381.

The dagger, however, in the City Arms, is said to be really no dagger at all, but a representation of a short sword, emblematical of St. Paul, the patron saint of the Corporation. This view is also supported by a careful examination of the interesting series of bosses still existing in the Eastern Crypt at Guildhall ; these are of early date, and among them are representations of the shield and the dagger, also one bearing two swords crossed *saltire* wise, which may be taken as another emblem to be associated with the Apostle. In addition to this, there is an historical fact which puts all question as to Wat Tyler's connection with the dagger beyond doubt. The new Seal, upon which a "perfectly graven shield" appeared (and which would have taken at least four months to design and engrave), was brought in by the Mayor on the 17th April, 1381, as already stated, two months previous to the death of Wat Tyler, which occurred on the 15th June in the same year.



Ward  
Divisions.

In the estates and holdings presided over by the Aldermen and Barons we have the Wards, another name for the burghal shires into which the old cities were divided. At what period such division and appropriation of the soil took place is uncertain, but it must be one of remote antiquity, if not coëval with the foundation of the City itself—their position, their limits, and, in certain instances, distinctive peculiarities, are sufficient evidence of this. They were local divisions, resembling the *curiales* and *regiones* of a classic city. On this there is the emphatic testimony of Fitzstephen, who, after his reference to the use of laws and institutions common to Rome, remarks,<sup>1</sup> "London is in like manner to Rome, distributed into regions." In this also it may be compared with York, the only other of our municipal centres which ever shared with London the honour of being the representative seat of the Imperial Government. In the Domesday Survey<sup>2</sup> we read that in the reign of Edward the Confessor, York was divided into six shires besides that of the Archbishop,

<sup>1</sup> Stow's "Survey of London." Thoms' Edition, p. 185.

<sup>2</sup> Ellis's "Introduction to Domesday."



and contained about eighteen hundred houses.<sup>1</sup> This is the probable origin of our Ward divisions; the number would be guided by the size of the city, the natural configuration of its site, and a variety of other considerations. Canterbury, for example, was for years divided into six Wards; but under later necessities and arrangements this number has been reduced to three. One of the earliest uses of the word *Ward*, as designating such divisions, is to be found in the well-known charter of Henry I to the citizens of London, where mention of it occurs as among the ancient civic institutions. "*Et terras suas et wardemotum, et debita civibus meis habere faciam infra civitatem et extra.*"<sup>2</sup> "*Wardmote*" but represents the Roman *plebiscita*, the assembling together of the inhabitants of each particular division under the presidency of its *Senator*, Alderman, or his deputy, for the purpose of regulating the business of such Ward—a system preserved in the *folkesmot* of the Saxons—the word "*Folkmote*" but superseding the *Plebis-conventus* of Rome. The most ancient of the Wards, now twenty-six in number, are probably those of Tower, Billingsgate, Bridge, Dowgate, Langbourne, Candlewick, and Walbrook, the latter deriving its name from the rivulet or stream, which as a natural boundary separated the eastern from the western portion of the City. In the area comprised by these particular Wards no indications of Roman burial appear to have been recorded. This is a circumstance that affords almost conclusive evidence as to the origin of these "*regiones*" of Fitzstephen. It is well known that burial within the City walls was strictly forbidden by Roman law, and it is an interesting illustration of the adoption of this rule to find that no traces of interment have been observed within the area mentioned. This alone affords important evidence as to the gradual extension of the City westward, and testifies to the correctness of the opinion that locates the first City on the eastern bank of the old watercourse, for upon the western side indications of Roman sepulture have been often noted. Walbrook formed a boundary to the Wards of Dowgate, Walbrook, Broad Street, and Bishopsgate Without, upon the eastern side; and later on to Cordwainer, Cheap, and Coleman Street upon the other. The first list of the Wards as preserved in the City archives, and one which until recently was thought to be the earliest in existence, occurs in the reign of Edward I, and bears the date of 1284-5. In this list, twenty-four Wards are enumerated, and for the most part they can be at once recognised by names closely resembling those now in use. A few retain the Latin designation, for example, *Warda Fori*, *Warda Turri*, *Warda Pontis*, &c. A subsequent list—viz., in the year 1307, and in the wardenship of Sir John Blount, who was *custos* for seven years, is very similar. This records the number of armed men which each Ward or region had to send to the various City gates for the general protection of the City.<sup>3</sup> A discovery, however, has recently been made in another quarter,<sup>4</sup> surpassing in interest these and all subsequent lists, and it enables us to trace to a still earlier source than had been previously anticipated the great antiquity of the Ward divisions. This document is preserved among the highly-interesting series of manuscripts in the custody of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. It is no other than a description of the lands (with their respective measurements) belonging in the twelfth century to the Church of St. Paul's and it contains more information relative to the Wards and the

<sup>1</sup> In the same record, relating to Cambridgeshire, the Wards or divisions of City or Borough are spoken of as "*Custodia Scyre.*"

<sup>2</sup> Thorpe's "*Ancient Laws and Institutes of England*," p. 503.

<sup>3</sup> Letter Book A, fol. 117. Letter Book B, fol. 94.

<sup>4</sup> "*Historical MSS. Commission*," Ninth Report, part i, p. 66.



aldermen who exercised jurisdiction over them than anything hitherto recorded, together with many curious particulars relative to the condition of the City at this early period. It is, moreover, a list of entries connected with tenure of land within the City limits, long anterior to the mayoralty of Fitz-Alwyn, and one that in many ways indirectly demonstrates the presence of a municipal system—one long in practice—but which only received its complete and proper recognition when the Charter to the citizens was in 1214 granted by King John. The manuscript belongs to the time of Henry I, and indeed to the early portion of his reign. It consequently relates to a period bordering on two centuries earlier than any similar record previously discovered, and inasmuch as names of localities and individuals are mentioned which are associated with the early history of the Guildhall, its site, and its traditions, it has been thought desirable to publish so valuable a document in full; and accordingly, with the kind permission of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, the original has been photographed, and the eight pages which it occupies are here presented in fac-simile. Translated it reads as follows:—

“OF THE MEASUREMENTS OF THE LANDS OF ST. PAUL'S, WITHIN THE CITY OF LONDON.”

¶ The land of Bugi is 38 feet in breadth, and 62 feet in depth, and the gate of Hubert in the entrance has a width of  $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and this small piece is of the same length as that of Bugi. Of the same land Hubert also holds, and it is in length in depth on the north 103 feet, and on the south  $60\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and in breadth in the middle 58 feet. And these 3 holdings, *i.e.* lands, yield 2s. at Michaelmas.

¶ Beyond the Fleet Teobald pays  $3\frac{1}{2}$  shillings. Of these 16*d.* are paid to the King [as socage] at Martinmas. It is 132 feet in breadth, and 181 feet in length.

¶ The land of Wluric the loriner<sup>1</sup> is 38 feet broad, 181 feet long, and he has another piece 26 feet broad and 181 feet long. For these 2 holdings he pays 3s.

¶ William, son of Fulcrod, for the land of Living the deacon, which Teobald gave with his daughter to Fulcrod, pays 16*d.* It is 47 feet broad and 181 feet long.

¶ The land of Dering<sup>2</sup> [pays] 2s.; it is 52 feet wide, and in length 249 feet.

¶ In the Bishop's ward. The land of Wlfram pays 2s. at Easter. It is 53 feet in breadth and three less than 100 feet in length, and will be ours absolutely after the death of his mother and daughter.

¶ The land of Leuric the provost pays in fee 12*d.*, and is in breadth along the way 21 feet and  $63\frac{1}{2}$  feet in length, and 2 feet are enclosed.

The land of Hugh de Verli [pays] 8*d.* for socage at Easter. It is 32 feet broad and 67 feet long. At the back 30 feet.

The land which the Dean holds is 25 feet broad, 87 feet long. At the back 13 feet.

The land of Noriot is in breadth along the way 31 feet, in length  $53\frac{1}{2}$  feet. At the back  $32\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and it pays 12*d.* at the feast of St. Paul.

The land of Gubald [pays] 8*d.* in socage at Easter.

The land of the Bishop of Durham, which Helyas holds, pays 2s. at Easter and Michaelmas. It is 87 feet in breadth, and in length on the north 107 feet, but on the south 115 feet. At the back it is 102 feet. The entrance of the gate is 12 feet in breadth, and the length of the same entrance is 66 feet.

<sup>1</sup> Loremarii. A Lorimer or maker of lorimery, metal work for the reins or trappings of horses such as bits, bosses and spurs. “Lorence,” iron. Fr. “lormier,” a maker of small iron trinkets, as nails, spurs, etc. In the parish of North St. Michael's, in Oxford, was an alley or lane called the “Lorinery,” it being the place where such sort of iron wares were sold for all Oxford. *Vide* Hearne's Glossary to R. de Brune's translation of Langtoft's *Chronicle*, p. 613. The word survives in the title of the present Company of Loriners.

<sup>2</sup> Dering, identical with Dyrinig. *See* Kemble's *Cod. Dep.*, vol. ii, p. 387. Forerunner of our English surname Deering.

De mensuris terrarum sive p[ar]te  
intra civitatem lund[un]i.

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**T**erra Bugi laciū .xxxviii. ped. longitudinis in  
pfundum .lxii. ped. P[ar]te hubera in introitu habet  
laciū .vii. ped. & dimid. & hoc canallū huius ē longi-  
tudinis cunctis & bugi. De eadem tenet, eadē huba ē est  
longitudinis in pfundum ab aquilone .cui. ped. & a  
meridie .lx. ped. & dimidū. & laciū in medio .l.  
vii. ped. Et h[ec] .iiij. mansure reddunt .ij. sol in festo  
s[an]cti michaelis.

**T**erra fletam Teobaldus .iiij. sol & dimid; eo his reddunt  
regi in festo s[an]cti martini .xviij. d. laciū .cxxxij. ped.  
longitudinis .cxxxij. ped.

**T**erra Wolfrici loremarū est laciū .xxxvii. ped.  
longitudinis .cxxxij. ped. habet & alterā cunctis laciū  
est .xxviij. ped. Longitudo .cxxxij. ped. Pro his duabus  
mansuris reddit .iiij. sol.

**W**ill's filius fulcredi p[er] terra luingi diaconi quam  
Teobaldus dedit cum filia sua fulredo laciū .xlviij.  
ped. longit. .cxxxij. ped. & reddit .xviij. d.

**T**erra Deringi .ij. sol. laciū .liij. ped. Longitudo  
in pfundū .ccxlxx. ped.

**T**erra Warda ep[iscop]i. Terra Wolframi, ij. sol in pascha, laciū  
est .liij. ped. Longitudo .c. ped. vij. minus. & erit n[ost]ra  
quæta post obitum matris & filij.

**T**erra Leurici prepositi reddit in feod. xij. d. & est laci-  
tudinis secus uia .xxi. ped. Longitudo .lxxij. ped. & dimid.  
& ij. pedes sunt purp[ur]is.

**T**erra hugonis de uerli .viij. d. p[er] focagio in pascha. & reddit.  
laciū eius est .xxxij. ped. & longitudo .lxxij. ped. De  
retero .xxx. ped.

**T**erra quā teneo decanus est laciū .xxv. ped. longit.  
in pfundo .lxxxviij. ped. Deretro .xiiij. ped.

**T**erra horior laciū est secus uia .xxxiiij. ped. longit.  
liij. ped. & dimid. Deretro .xxxij. ped. & dimid. & red-  
dit in festo s[an]cti Pauli .xii. d.

**T**erra Gubaldi .viij. d. de focagio in pascha.

**T**erra epi Dunelmensis quā tenet helyas reddit. ij. sol.  
in pascha & in festo scti onch; latitudo est. lxxxvj. ped.  
Longitudo ab aquilone. cvij. ped. Americie uero. xxv.  
ped. De retro. cij. ped. Incomul portz est latitudo. xij.  
ped. longitudo eiusde incomul. lxxvj. ped.

**T**erra Theodoric latitudinis est. xlix. pedū. longit.  
uxta murum. lxx. ped. reddit. ij. sol. in pascha & in  
festis scti michaelis.

**T**erra Osberti masculi latitudo. lxx. ped. longitudo. lx  
xxvj. ped.

**T**erra Brichtrici <sup>reddat</sup> xij. d; latitudo. xliij. ped. longitudo  
lxxvj. pedū.

**T**erra Warda baconi Terra Alba locerungi quā tenet Ran-  
mulfus canonicus. reddit. xxvj. d. in festo scti michaelis.  
Et hec quidem mensuranda est.

**T**erra quā tenet Aluena uxore Edwardi ceci reddit  
ij. sol. in pascha & in festo scti onch. & libra pipis in  
festis scti Pauli; latitudinis. ē. in fronte uixta uiam. xxxvj.  
pedū. in fine. xl. pedū. longit. cc. ped. xij. ped minus.  
Et alia terra quā Gillebert pruchiv nobis diffornat. vij.  
d. de socagio. de eadem terra.

**T**erra uico iudeor. Terra Lusbit in fronte ex parte occi-  
dentis. ē. latitudo. xxxij. ped. versus scm Olauū longit.  
quat. xx. xxvj. pedū. iterū uersus scm Olauū long.  
lxx. ped. in fronte. xij. ped. Terra in fronte. lxxij.  
ped. in pfundo. xij. ped. & reddit. x. sol.

**T**erra Warda Alwoldi. Terra Brichtrici. ē. latit. lxx. ped.  
longit. cvj. pedū. & reddit in feudū. v. sol. Ex parte  
scti Margarete. xij. pedib; muni lata. ex parte aquilo-  
nali longitudo breuior. vj. pedibus.

**T**erra Radulfi Britonis est latitudinis. xxvj. pe-  
dum. longitudinis. lx. ped. & reddit. ij. sol. in feudū.

**T**erra Aisi in fronte. lxx. pedū. in pfundo quat.  
xx. pedū. & reddit. ij. sol. in feudum.

**T**erra Goldsynn clerici latitudinis. xxx. pedum.  
longit. c. & quat. xx. &. iij. pedū. In fine eade ex

parte orientali uirgultū. latitudinis. xxx. iij. pedū.  
longitudinis. lxxx. iij. pedū. & reddit in feud. ij. sol. in  
festo scti mich. xij. d. op. & xij. d. canonicis. Socce Aldre-  
manesberi. ij. ob. & j. d. regi in media quadragesima.

**T**erra Edrici clerici est longitudinis. quat. xx.  
pedum. ij. minus. in fronte latitudinis. xl. pedū. & reddit  
in feud. xij. d. in festo scti Edmundi. Regi de soccagio. j.  
d. Ex parte orientali tūa latit. ē. viij. pedibus.

**T**erra edmari reddit. ij. sol. in natiuitate sctę marie  
Ex his reddunt regi. iij. d. in ramis palmar. long. q̄ter  
xx. ix. ped. latitudinis. lxxi. ped.

**I**n Aldresmanesberi. Terra Wolredi reddit. iij. sol. in feud.  
& iij. ob socce. In fronte longitudinis. cxxx. iij. pedum.  
latitudinis. xli. pedum.

**I**n Warda fori terra Goduini sc̄ar reddit in feud. xx. sol.  
longitudinis. c. & xj. pedū. latitud. quater. xx. & ij. ped.  
De retro similiter quater. xx. & ij. ped.

**I**n Warda Edwardi parole terra sproi quā tenet Go-  
dardus filius haroldi reddit. iij. sol. hęc est in fron-  
te latitudinis. lviij. ped. & usq. ad moram p̄tendit lon-

**A**n te domū Laufonis t̄es mansure Egitudo.  
reddunt. xvij. d. & una. iij. d. in festo sctōz Petri &  
Pauli. quam terrā tenent Stephanus. Martinus.  
Culwinus. & Godid mater huius. longitudinis sec̄  
uiam. c. & xv. pedū. latitudinis. ci. pedis ex occiden-  
te. lx. pedū ex oriente.

**I**n Warda Algari manningestepune terra quā tenet  
Adam reddit. iij. sol. & viij. d. In pascha. & in festo  
scti michaelis. In fronte secus uiam habet latitudinē  
lv. pedū. longitudinē. c. xl. vj. pedum.

**T**erra Asculi latitudinis secus uiam ab aq̄lonali parte  
c. pedis. longitudinis. c. & quater. xx. & j. pedis ten-  
dens ad meridiem. Et ex eadem terra secus uia ex  
occidente longitudinis. c. & xxx. iij. pedū. latitudinis  
lx. iij. pedum.

**I**n Warda Rad filii Liuuie. Terra quā dedit Geroldus



de stratfeto reddio in feudo .iij. sol. in festo s<sup>c</sup>i loh<sup>i</sup>s.  
& in yarali d<sup>n</sup>i. longitudo eius .ē. cxx. pedū. ab aq-  
lone. xxxj. pedis. in fronte secus uiam uersus g<sup>r</sup>eciam

**I**sc<sup>i</sup> Petri de cōn<sup>h</sup>illa. xliij. pedum & dimidiū.  
y Warda Alegate Terra Edw<sup>m</sup> att<sup>r</sup> reddit. xvj. s. la-  
tudo eius. cc. xxij. pedū. in fronte iuxta murum lati-  
tudo. l. pedis. in medio. lviij. pedum. in meridie. xxx  
ij. pedum.

**I**y Warda Godwini filii esgari. Terra Brichmari mana. reddio  
xx. s. in fronte iuxta uia. latitudinis. xxxij. pedum.  
& dimidiū. Longitudo eius. ē. cly. pedis. Ex oriente.

xxxvj. pedum.  
**I**y Warda Brichmari bordarij. Terra Gialle. ij. sol. 7  
latitudinis. l. pedū. longitudinis. cxxij. pedum.  
In fine. xxx. pedum & dimidiū.

**I**y Warda Brichmari monetarii. Terra Horaine. Ed-  
mundus. & caperun. de. ij. mansuris. vij. sol. & x. s.  
reddiunt in pascha & in festo s<sup>c</sup>i michaelis. Longitudi-  
nis. cc. xix. pedum. in fronte iuxta uiam. lxxs. pedū.  
In fine. quādr<sup>e</sup>. & vj. pedum.

**T**erra Rad<sup>i</sup> aurifabri quā teneo Calw<sup>m</sup>ius. reddit  
canonicis feudaliter. xxx. & viij. s. totte comit<sup>is</sup> Gloe-  
cestrie. longitudinis. l. pedū. latitudo. xxxvj. pedum.

**I**y Warda Sperlingi. Terra Anskeri  
quam teneo Rannulfus. iij. sol. longitudinis in  
fronte iuxta uia. lxxs. ij. pedum. latitudinis. lxxv. p. 7.  
Iterū de terra Horaine quā Paganus teneo. ij. sol. la-  
titudinis. l. pedis. longitudinis. lxxij. pedū.

**T**erra quā tenuit Edmūus filius Goldum. ij. sol. reddit  
ad uinctā s<sup>c</sup>i Petri. latitudinis. xliij. pedū & dimidiū.  
longitudinis. lviij. pedū. Metha mansura.

Superior mansura latitudinis. xxxvj. pedū. longitu-  
dinis. xly. pedis. Inferior mansura quater. xxij. pe-  
dum. Ex aquilone. xxx. ped. a meridie. xxx. ped.

**I**y Warda Eusewardi filii Wizeli. Terra Brichmari reddio  
manei. v. sol. in pascha & in festo s<sup>c</sup>i michaelis. lati-

cc. xx.

f

itudinis .xxj. ped. longitudinis .xxxij. ped.

Iohs filius Rad filii Ewardi .xxij. d. in festo sci Michael. reddat.  
Latitudo eius .xxxvj. pedu. Longitudo.

De retro .xliij. pedum.

q Warda herberti. Terra qua tenet Willelms de pontearch. reddat.  
xx. d. & monachi sci Saluatoris. xj. d. de Socagio.

q Warda Osbi dringepinne. Terra Wakeride. xxi. d. reddat.  
in festo sci Pauli. Latitudo .xlx. pedu. Longitudo iuxta  
uiam .lxx. pedu. iuxta eccliam ex alta costa .lx. ped.

Terra qua tenet. Willelmus inuenit. xxvj. d. reddat.  
itudinis iuxta uia. xxxij. pedu. Longitudo .lxj. pedis.  
Fabrica ante domu Willelmi de Arundel. ij. sot. latitudo  
xxij. ped. Longitudo .l. pedu.

q Warda Luere. Terra Suecmanii prebri qua tenet  
Robtus de urulla. xj. d.

Terra monialis. vij. sot. & viij. d. reddat.  
in festo sci Michael. latitudinis .xxxvj. pedum. Longi-  
tudinis .lviij. pedum.

q Warda Brocefgange. Terra Willelmi nepotis huius  
di. xviij. sot. in pascha & in festo sci Mich. In fronte  
latitudinis .xxv. pedu. & durat usq; tamisiam.

Terra Breteili. xxxij. sot. in pascha & in festo sci  
Michaelis. latitudinis .xxv. pedu. & durat usq; tamis.

Terra qua tenet Robtus fr fulcredi. xij. sot. la-  
titudinis .xxj. pedu. & durat usq; tamisiam. Et habet  
inde Robtus. iij. sot. de supplus.

q Warda hugonis filii Vlgari. Terra Ragemlde. xl.  
d. in pascha & in festo sci Mich. In posteriori. e. ped.  
ij. pedib; minus. uersus domu Eustacii. latitudinis  
xlv. pedum.

Terra Willelmi filii Simeri. j. marca arg. reddat. 7  
xx. pedu & dimid. latitudinis .xxxvj. pedum.

De eadem terra Robtus filius Willelmi filii Terri. iij. sot. reddat.  
in festo sci Pauli.

Terra Wluarch. ij. sot. & tenent eam Willelms malec  
& Eustaci nepos fulcredi. & de hac terra habet Willelms

malec longitudinē .xxx. pedum . & latitudinē .xx. p.  
& reddit .iiij. s. Et autē totius terre longitudo .lxiij.  
pedum . latitudo .xlviij. pedum.

**T**erra uxoris Rad .iiij. sol. in festo s<sup>ci</sup> Pauli <sup>reddat . 7 1/2</sup> longitudo .  
dimis . lxxxviij. pedū . latitudinis in fronte iuxta uia  
xxx. pedum.

**T**erra Willelmi de Colecestria . dimid<sup>us</sup> marcā argenti reddit  
in pascha & in festo s<sup>ci</sup> michael<sup>is</sup> . longitudinis . lxxi.  
pedum . latitudinis . xlviij. pedū .

**I**uxta Warda Remundi . Terra fabri . iiij. sol. in festo s<sup>ci</sup>  
Pauli . Longitud<sup>is</sup> . xxxv. ped<sup>es</sup> & dimid<sup>us</sup> . latitud<sup>is</sup> . xxxij. ped<sup>es</sup> .

**T**erra trencemarche . iiij. sol. <sup>reddat</sup> latitud<sup>is</sup> in fronte  
xlviij. pedū . Longitud<sup>is</sup> . lxx. pedum . & de sup<sup>er</sup> plus  
habet Odo . iiij. sol.

**T**erra Meinbodi in fronte uersus scā<sup>m</sup> margareta<sup>m</sup> .  
latitudinis . lxx. ped<sup>es</sup> . Longitudinis . lxxxviij. pedū . &  
iungula longitudo . lviij. ped<sup>es</sup> . latitudo . xliij. pedū .

**T**erra fulcheri nain in fronte secus uiam . latitud<sup>is</sup> h<sup>ab</sup>  
xxviij. ped<sup>es</sup> & dimid<sup>us</sup> . Longitud<sup>is</sup> . lxxxviij. ped<sup>es</sup> . & redditio  
iiij. sol. & iiij. s. 7 j. quadrantē .

**T**erra quā tenet eua in uadiū secus uia<sup>m</sup> . lati-  
tud<sup>is</sup> . lviij. ped<sup>es</sup> . Longitud<sup>is</sup> . lxxx. ped<sup>es</sup> & redditio in feud<sup>o</sup>  
Item Meinbodus in posteriori <sup>lxxv. sol.</sup>  
tenet . iiij. mansuras . latitudinis in fronte . xlviij. p.  
Longitudinis . liij. pedum .

**T**erra uacua in dominio . latitud<sup>is</sup> . xxviij. ped<sup>es</sup> . &  
dimidū . Longitud<sup>is</sup> . xxxviij. pedum .  
Item terra Meinbodi iuxta uacuā terrā . latit<sup>udo</sup> . xxviij.  
ped<sup>es</sup> . Longitud<sup>is</sup> . xxxviij. pedum .

**T**erra Edild<sup>is</sup> . latitud<sup>is</sup> . xxviij. ped<sup>es</sup> . Longitud<sup>is</sup> . xxxviij.  
ped<sup>es</sup> . Modo nichil reddit . post obitū erit n<sup>ost</sup>ra .  
Iuxta tenet Meinbodus terrā latit<sup>udo</sup> . xxviij. ped<sup>es</sup> . longit<sup>udo</sup>  
xxxviij. ped<sup>es</sup> . Alwinus scot tenet terrā . latit<sup>udo</sup> . xxviij.  
ped<sup>es</sup> . longit<sup>udo</sup> . xxxviij. pedum .

**T**erra clausag<sup>is</sup> . latit<sup>udo</sup> cellarij . xxx. ped<sup>es</sup> & dimidū .  
Longit<sup>udo</sup> . liij. pedum .

**T**erra quā tenet Robt<sup>o</sup> de auco. latit. xxxviij. ped. longitūd. lx. pedum.

Item Robt<sup>o</sup> de auco terra in fronte latit. xxxix. ped.

Longitūd. lxviij. ped. & hē. ij. cerre reddunt. xij. sol.

ij Warda Rad filii Algo di terra Edum de scō

**A**ugustino reddit feudaliter. ij. sol. & xij. d. op. & xij. d. canonicis. Longitūd. c. & ij. ped. latit. xxxix. ped.

**D**e terra Osberti thesaurarii. Will<sup>o</sup> de dracona reddit. an. sol. in pascha & in festo scī oñch. latit. xxvij. ped. longitūd. lxviij. ped.

De eadem Waco pbr<sup>o</sup> <sup>habet</sup> latit. xx. ped. & dimidiū. longitūd. lxviij. ped. & reddit. xxxij. d.

**D**e eadem Will<sup>o</sup> fil<sup>o</sup> Gosbū latit. xxxix. ped. & dimidiū. & reddit. viij. sol.

De eadem in eodem uico Robt<sup>o</sup> fil<sup>o</sup> Gosbū reddit. xxvj. sol. in pascha & in festo scī oñch. latit. xxi. ped.

in uico piscario. longitūd. lxviij. pedū.

**D**e eadem tenet Theodoricus in eodem uico piscario. & reddit. xx. sol. longitūd. lxxij. ped. & dimidiū. latit. xxviij. ped. & dimidiū.

De eadē in uico fori Robt<sup>o</sup> fil<sup>o</sup> Gosbū. ij. mansuras tenet latit. lx. ped. & dimidiū. longitūd. lxviij. ped. & dimidiū.

**D**e eadem Robt<sup>o</sup> fil<sup>o</sup> Berner<sup>o</sup> latit. xvj. ped. longitūd. xxx. ped. & reddit feudaliter. viij. sol. in festo scī oñch.

De eadem in strito uico iuxta domū herleswini in fronte latitūd. xxviij. ped.

De eadē Beremanni latit. xlv. ped. & dimidiū. tenet.

**D**e eadem Wincb<sup>o</sup> latit. xxxij. ped. harum triū longitūd. xlvj. ped. preter hoc quod uie exposuerant inter domos & polū. scilicet. xvj. ped.

Item de eadem quā tenuit Rannulfus paruas longitūd. xxxij. ped. latit. lxviij. ped. &.

**I**tem de eadem. terra quā tenet filius passeluuet in uiculo secus uia longitūd. xxxviij. ped. in pfundum xxxij. pedum. & reddit. ij. sol.

Item in foro iuxta domū herleswini. terre latitudo. z.



in fronte iuxta uiam .xvj. ped. longit. .xxiij. ped. &  
j. palmū.

Terra quam tenet Gaufridus canonicus. latit in  
fronte secus uia .xxij. ped. longit. lxx. pedum.  
in pfundum uersus curiam.

In Warda osberti drinkepinne. Tra  
qua tenuit Wulwim iuuenis reddidit  
canonicis scti pauli .xxviij. d. Et est la-  
titudinis iuxta uia .xxxiij. pedū. Lon-  
gitudinis. lxi. pedum.

¶ Deditur assignatus vicarius uementibz ad curiam hura-  
rie in Ecclia scti pauli londoniar. videt in pirancie diti-  
buendi.

¶ De hugone s. Clementis defuncto. v. s. m. den. papiens illo  
q. uocat aldwik s. eam lapideam.

¶ De Ricardo clero q. templū dedit

The land of Theodoric is 49 feet broad, and 54 feet long next the wall. It pays 3s. at Easter and Michaelmas.

The land of Osbert Masculus is 62 feet broad, and 77 feet long.

The land of Brichtric<sup>1</sup> [pays] 12*d.*; it is 44 feet broad and 66 feet long.

In the ward of Haco.<sup>2</sup> The land of Albert of Lorraine, which Rannulf the Canon holds, pays 18*d.* at Michaelmas. And this must be measured.

The land, which Alveva the wife of Edward Cecus holds, pays 3s. at Easter and Michaelmas, and a pound of pepper at the feast of St. Paul. In the front next the highway it is 85 feet broad, and at the end 40 feet; in length it is 200 all but 18 feet.

And another piece of land which Gillebert Prutfof claims from us [pays] 7*d.* in socage from the same land.

In the Jews' street ?<sup>3</sup> (Jewry) the land of Lusbert in the front on the western side is 32 feet in breadth. Towards St. Olave's the length is four score and fifteen feet; again towards St. Olave's the length is 65 feet, and in the front 13 feet. The land in the front is 73 feet, in depth 41 feet, and pays 10s.

In the ward of Alwold. The land of Brichtric is 53 feet broad and 106 feet long; and it pays in fee 5s. On St. Margaret's side it is less in breadth by twelve feet, and on the north side the length is shorter by 6 feet.

The land of Ralf Brito is 28 feet broad, 60 feet long, and pays 2s. in fee.

The land of Alsi is in the front 62 feet, in depth 80 feet, and yields in fee 3s.

The land of Goldwin the clerk is 30 feet broad, and a hundred, fourscore and four feet long. At the end of the same on the eastern part [there is] a shrubbery, 33 feet in breadth, 83 feet in length, and pays in fee 2s. at Michaelmas; 12*d.* to the work [of maintaining the cathedral ?] (operi), and 12*d.* to the Canons; to the soke of Aldresmanebri, three halfpence: and 1*d.* to the King in the middle of Lent.

The land of Edric<sup>4</sup> the clerk is 78 feet in length and 40 feet in breadth, and pays in fee 12*d.* at the feast of St. Edmund; and 1*d.* to the King in socage. On the eastern side the land is wider by 8 feet.

The land of Edmar yields 2s. at the Nativity of St. Mary. Of these 3*d.* is paid to the King on Palm Sunday. It is 90 feet in length, and 71 feet in breadth.

In Aldresmanebri the land of Wlured pays 3s. in fee, and 1½*d.* to the soke. It is 133 feet in length, and 41 feet in breadth.

¶ In the ward of the market place (Cheap) the land of Godwin Scat pays in fee 20s., and is 111 feet in length and 82 feet in breadth. At the back it is likewise 82 feet.

<sup>1</sup> Brichtric, a name familiar in the chronicle of Battel Abbey. *Vide* its translation by the late M. A. Lower, F.S.A. (J. R. Smith, 1851.)

<sup>2</sup> Warda Haconis. Hacon. Saint Nicholas, St. Nicholas of Acon. Acon, or Ptolemais in Syria. This Saint, according to Newcourt, was son of Epiphanius and was born at Patara in Lycia. He became Bishop of Myra in Italy, is said to have performed many miracles and died a natural death A.D. 349. What his connection was with Acon does not seem to be known. The Church of St. Nicholas Acon (or Hacon) in London stood on the west side of St. Nicholas Lane, Lombard Street. It was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666 and not rebuilt; that of St. Edmund, Lombard Street, being made the Church for both parishes.

<sup>3</sup> In *Vico Judeorum* we are brought into contact with the Church of St. Olave's in the Jewry, and to an early mention of the presence of Jewish occupancy in this particular district. In early deeds the parish church of St. Laurence is spoken of as in the Jewry, with one exception, to which reference will be made hereafter. The first settlement of the Jewish race in this country, as their selection of certain districts for residence and trade, is a subject of much interest. Their arrival was due to the Norman Conquest. "In the wake of the Conquerors," writes Mr. Freeman, "the Jews of Rouen found their way to London, and he gives a graphic picture of the high position they assumed prior to the persecutions, so familiar in later days. In the days of Rufus, the Jews of Rouen and London stood erect before the prince of the land, and they seem to have enjoyed no small share of his favour and personal familiarity." [See 'The Reign of William Rufus,' by E. A. Freeman, M.A., &c., 1882, vol. i, p. 160.] At this period they lived safe from harm or insults, save now and then, when popular wrath burst all bounds, and when their proud mansions and fortified quarters could shelter them no longer from raging crowds eager to wash out their debts in the blood of their creditors.

<sup>4</sup> Edric a well-known Saxon name.—Brichmar also Saxon.

¶ In the ward of Edward Parole, the land of Sprot, which Godard the son of Harold holds, pays 3s. This is in breadth in front 57 feet, and in length reaches as far as the moor.

Before the house of Taiso three holdings pay 18*d.*; and one pays 4*d.* at the feast of Saints Peter and Paul; this land is held by Stephen, Martin, Eilvin, and Godid mother of "Huniet." It is in length along the way 115 feet, and in breadth 101 feet on the western, and 60 feet on the eastern side.

¶ In the ward of Algar Mannigestepsune, the land, which Adam holds, pays 4s. 8*d.* at Easter and Michaelmas. In the front along the way it has a breadth of 55 feet and a length of 146 feet.

The land of Ascill is in breadth along the way on the northern part 151 feet, and a hundred and fourscore and one feet in length, reaching to the south, and from the same land along the way on the west it is 134 feet in length and 64 feet in breadth.

¶ In the ward of Rolf son of Liviva.<sup>1</sup> The land, which Gerold of Stratfort gave, pays in fee 4s. at the feast of St. John and at Christmas. Its length is 120 feet. On the north 31 feet, in front along the way towards the Church of St. Peter of Cornhill, 43½ feet.

¶ In the ward of Alegate the land of Edwin Atter pays 16*d.* Its breadth is 222 feet. In front next the wall is 51 feet wide, in the middle 58 feet, and on the south 32 feet.

¶ In the ward of Godwin son of Esgar. The land of Brithmar Mancus (the cripple) [pays] 20*d.* In front it [is] in width along the way 34½ feet, in length 151 feet, and on the eastern part 37 feet.

¶ In the ward of Brichmar the Cottager,<sup>2</sup> the land of Gialla [pays] 2s.; [and] it [is] 52 feet wide, 132 feet long, and at the end 30½ feet.

In the ward of Brichmar the moneyer.<sup>3</sup> The land of Nortune, Edmund and Caperun, for 2 holdings pays 7s. 10*d.* at Easter and Michaelmas. It is in length 219 feet, in frontage next the way 75 feet, and at the end four [score] and six feet.

The land of Ralph the goldsmith, which Eilvin holds, pays in fee to the Canons 30*d.*; and 8*d.* to the soke of the Earl of Gloucester. In length [it is] 50 feet, and in width 36 feet.

¶ In the ward of Sperling. The land of Ansker, held by Rannulf, pays 4s.; it is in frontage next the way 78 feet long, and in width 75 feet.

Again, from the land of Nortune which Pagan holds, [are paid] 2s. [And it is] 51 feet wide and 78 feet long.

The land which Eduin son of Golduin held, [pays] 2s. at the feast of St. Peter ad Vinconla; [it is] 44½ feet wide and 56 feet long. The middle holding.<sup>4</sup>

The upper holding is 36 feet wide, and 41 feet long. The lower holding is fourscore and three feet. On the northern side 35 feet, and on the southern 30 feet.

<sup>1</sup> Rolf son of Liviva. This Alderman was associated with Norman, Prior of Holy Trinity, Aldgate, as a witness to the transfer of certain property at Twyford, in the year 1122.

<sup>2</sup> "Bordarius." Mr. Riley (*vide* "Liber Custumarum," p. 738) remarks that the exact meaning of this term is involved in obscurity. The word, he says, is evidently synonymous with the *ge-bup* of Anglo-Saxon times, and it seems not improbable that the class of farm labourers had these names from living together (and perhaps serving) at their master's table, board, or house—*ge-boþs* or *bup*—the farmhouse of the demesne: in contradistinction to the "*cotari*" or "*cot-settles*," who dwelt in separate cottages. According to Du Cange (Glossar) and other authorities this labourer was so-called from holding a house of his own (in Anglo-Saxon *boþs*) on condition of service to the lord, but on this supposition it is impossible to see what difference there could have been between him and the "*cotarius*" or cottager. It seems much more probable that he belonged to the class of servants called *hlaf-æta* or "*loaf eater*," fed at their master's cost. The *Bordarius* appear to be also identical with the farm labourer known as "*operarius*" in the 13th and 14th centuries—see further in Archdeacon's Hale's *Donceday of St. Paul's*. Intro. pp. 23, 26, and 31.

<sup>3</sup> Brichmar, the Moneyer. *Monetarius*, a moneyer. These officers were ministers of the Mint, who coined the King's money: such Mints being established in several counties.

<sup>4</sup> Mansura—a building lot, or place on which a house might be erected.

¶ In the ward of Edward son of Wizel. The land of Brichmar Mancus (the cripple), [pays] 5s. at Easter and Michaelmas; it is 21 feet wide and 33 feet long.

John son of Ralf, son of Ennard, [pays] 32*d.* at Michaelmas; (his land) is 37 feet wide (*length not in the MS.*), and at the back 43 feet.

¶ In the ward of Herbert. The land which William de Pontearch holds, [pays] 30*d.*, and [to?] the monks of St. Saviour's in socage, 12*d.*

¶ In the ward of Osbert Dringepinne.<sup>1</sup> The land of Wakerilde [pays] 22*d.* at the feast of St. Paul; it is 49 feet wide, 65 feet long next the way, and 60 feet near the church, on the other side.

The land which Wlwin Juvenis (the Young) holds, [pays] 28*d.*; it is 34 feet in breadth next the way, and 61 feet in length.

The workshop before William de Arundel's house [pays] 2s.; it is 22 feet wide and 50 feet long.

¶ In the ward of Liured, the land of Suetmann the priest, which Robert of Urville holds, [pays] 12*d.*

The land belonging to the nun [pays] 7s. 8*d.* at Easter and Michaelmas, and [it is] 37 feet wide and 54 feet long.

¶ In the ward of Brocesgange.<sup>2</sup> The land of William, nephew of Huðbold, [pays] 18s. at Easter and Michaelmas. In the front [it is] 25 feet wide, and reaches to the Thames.

The land of Bretell [pays] 31s. at Easter and Michaelmas; [it is] 29 feet wide, and reaches to the Thames.

The land which Robert, brother of Fulcred, holds [pays] 12s.; [it is] 16 feet wide, and reaches to the Thames. And thereof Robert has 4s. surplus.

¶ In the ward of Hugh, son of Vlgar.<sup>3</sup> The land of Ragenild [pays] 40*d.* at Easter and Michaelmas. In the hinder part [it is] 100 feet less three towards the house of Eustace, 45 feet wide.

The land of William son of Simer [pays] one mark of silver; and [it is] 120½ feet long and 36 feet wide.

From the same land Robert son of William son of Terri, [pays] 8s. at the feast of St. Paul.

The land of Wlnard [pays] 2s., and it is held by William Malet and Eustace, nephew of Fulcred, and of this land William Malet has a length of 30 feet and a width of 20 feet, and it yields 4*d.* But the length of the whole land is 61 feet and the breadth 44 feet.

The land of Ralph's wife [pays] 3s. at the feast of St. Paul; it is 93 feet long, and 30 feet wide in front next the way.

The land of William of Colchester [pays] half a mark of silver at Easter and Michaelmas; it is 71 feet long and 43 feet wide.

¶ In the ward of Reimund. The land of the smith [pays] 8s. at the feast of St. Paul; [it is] 35½ feet long and 31 feet wide.

The land of Trencemarche [pays] 4s.; [it is] 41 feet broad in the front and 59 feet long. And Odo has 4s. surplus.

The land of Meinbod [is] 61 feet wide in the front towards St. Margaret's, and 86 feet long, and the shrubbery is 57 feet long and 42 feet wide.

<sup>1</sup> Dringepinne, by some writers translated *Drinchevyn*. The variation is probably due to the similarity which exists in early documents between the Anglo-Saxon *y* and *w* p. Osbert was among the fifteen burgesses of London descendants from the Guild of Knights, who in the year 1125 assembled in the Chapter House of the Church of the Holy Trinity, near Aldgate, and gave to that church all the land and the soken, which was called "English cuithregild," and in testimony thereof offered up on the high altar the title deeds of the property, including a charter of Edward the Confessor. Mr. Loftie suggests that the name *Dringepinne* is a nickname, and one which would seem to indicate that Osbert followed the trade of a vintner. Drink peg, referring to the pins or pegs which were in olden times placed in bowls or cups, for the purpose of limiting the quantity of liquor consumed by each person, a custom originating certain terms familiar to us as, "He is in a merry pin," "He is a peg too low," &c.

<sup>2</sup> Probably Dowgate Ward from the reference connecting it with the Thames.

<sup>3</sup> Hugh Fitz Ulgar, Canon of the Priory of Holy Trinity, in 1125.



The land of Fulcher Nain [has] a width of  $26\frac{1}{2}$  feet in front along the way, and a length of 78 feet, and [it pays] 2s.  $3\frac{1}{4}d$ .

¶ The land which Eva holds "in vadium" [for her wages] along the way has a width of 57 feet and a length of 80 feet, and yields in fee 15s.

Also Meinbod in the further part holds 2 lots, 44 feet wide in the front and 52 feet long.

¶ The fallow (vacua) land in demesne [is]  $17\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide and 34 feet long.

Also the land of Meinbod next the vacant land [is] 23 feet wide and 34 feet long.

¶ The land of Edild [is] 23 feet wide and 34 feet long. Now it pays nothing, and after her death it will belong to us.

Near it Meinbod holds land 24 feet wide and 34 feet long. Alwin Scot holds land 23 feet wide and 34 feet long.

The land of Claufag. The width of the cellar is  $19\frac{1}{2}$  feet and the length 53 feet.

The land which Robert de Auco holds [is] 38 feet wide and 60 feet long.

Also Robert de Auco [holds] a breadth of 39 feet of land in frontage and a length of 67 feet; and these 2 lands pay 12s.

¶ In the ward of Ralph<sup>1</sup> son of Algod, the land of Eduin of St. Augustine pays in feudal service 2s.—12*d*. for the work [of maintenance of Cathedral?] (operi) and 12*d*. for the Canons; it is 103 feet long and 39 feet wide.

From the land of Osbert the Treasurer, William of Draiton [pays] 4s. at Easter and Michaelmas; [it is] 27 feet wide and 74 feet long.

From the same, Waco the priest [has] a breadth  $20\frac{1}{2}$  feet and a length of 74 feet of land, and it pays 32*d*.

From the same, William son of Gosbert, [holds] a breadth of  $39\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and pays 8s.

From the same land in the same street Robert, son of Gosbert, pays 26s. at Easter and Michaelmas. The breadth is 21 feet in Fish Street and 74 feet long.

Of the same, Theodoric holds a piece in the same Fish Street, and pays 20s. It is  $83\frac{1}{2}$  feet long and  $24\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide.

Of the same land in Market Street or Fore Street (but probably Cheap) Robert, son of Gosbert, [holds] 2 lots,  $60\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide and  $83\frac{1}{2}$  feet long.

Of the same, Robert, son of Berner, [holds] a piece, a breadth of 16 feet and a length of 31 feet, which yields in feudal service 7s. at Michaelmas.

Of the same in the narrow street near the house of Herlewin, in front a width 28 feet.

Of the same land Deremann<sup>2</sup> holds a width of  $45\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide.

Of the same, Winebert has a width of 32 feet.

Of these three (pieces) the length is 46 feet, besides that which the roads have set out between the houses and the field, viz., 16 feet.

Also of the same which Rannulf Parvus (the Little) held, [is] 81 feet long and 72 feet wide.

Also of the same, the land which the son of Passelunet holds, in the little street or lane along the way, is 37 feet long and 23 feet in depth, and he pays 2s.

Also in the market place next the house of Herlewin the width of the land in front next the way is 16 feet, and the length 24 feet and one palm.

The land which Geoffrey the Canon holds in front along the way is 32 feet wide, and 54 feet long in depth towards the court.

¶ In the ward of Osbert Drinkpinne.<sup>3</sup> The land which Wulvin Juvenis (the Young) held, paid to the Canons of Saint Paul's 28*d*. And is in width next the way 34 feet; and 61 feet long.

<sup>1</sup> This Ralph was another of the Canons of Aldgate who went into the Priory in 1125.

<sup>2</sup> Deormanne—*vide* second Charter from William the Conqueror, preserved at Guildhall. This document is no other than a confirmation to Deorman, the King's "*homo*," of certain land.—Introduction to the "Historical Charters and Constitutional Documents of the City of London," edited by W. de Grey Birch, F.S.A. Introduction, p. 13.

<sup>3</sup> This last entry is in a later handwriting.

¶ Rent assigned to the Vicars coming to the Mass of the Blessed Mary in the Church of St. Paul's at London, viz., for distributing pittances.

¶ From Hugh of St. Clement's, deceased, 5s. 4d. to be received in the place which is called Aldwick against the stone cross.

¶ From Richard the Clerk against the Old Temple . . . . .

This is, probably, the earliest document at present known which contains a reference to the Wards and Aldermanries of the City. In it are included two entries associated with Aldermanbury connecting the site, and its immediate vicinity, with a period long antecedent to anything elsewhere recorded, and which testify to the accuracy of Stow when he identified the name of this locality in a document of something less than a century later. The reference to the "Jews' street" proves the connection which existed between that locality and the Guildhall, inasmuch as by it is identified the present site with that occupied by the earlier building. A terrible persecution of the Jews commenced in the year 1262, and in 1287 or 1289 the great expulsion took place. In an interesting MS., formerly in the Cottonian Library,<sup>1</sup> it was recorded that at this time the Jews of the City were imprisoned in Guildhall. The proximity of the building to the Jewry, and its suitable dimensions for the purpose required, at once explains the selection of the building. The entry is explicit as to what took place on the occasion. It reads:—"Hoc anno in vigil conceptionis Beatæ Mariæ omnes Judæi London capti et incarcerati apud Gythalam, London." Stow refers to their removal from the Jewry but makes no reference to the above incident. "They were," says he, "wholly and for ever, by the said King, banished this realme, having of their own goods to bear their charges, till they were out of his dominions."<sup>2</sup> There are also many other points of interest connected with localities mentioned; for example, we are introduced to Fish Street, *Vicus Piscarius*. *Warda Fori*, the Cheap or Market Place. *Warda Alegate*, referring to the Ward of Aldgate, but giving its original name. *Warda Brocesgange*—the "outlet of the brook"—identifying the district mentioned with that of Dowgate Ward, &c. We are likewise introduced to various names of distinguished citizens, many of them belonging to Saxon families, and again to individuals of note who were descendants of the "Knighten Gild," or English Guild of Knights, and who are here found among the fifteen wealthy burgesses of London who parted with certain lands, which subsequently became represented by the Ward of Portsoken. This sacrifice was made for the purpose of conferring important benefits on the religious house known as the Church of the Holy Trinity, near Aldgate, and within the City walls. There are, in addition, names of officials in this early list which are met with in other documents of corresponding date, and to these further reference will be made, from the association which they will be seen to have in connection with a site, that included within its boundaries portions of no less than three of the City parishes, and is now occupied by the Guildhall and its adjacent buildings. This record also shows how much of the City land was in the possession of the Church at the time of its compilation. When we consider the holdings of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's alone, without any reference to those owned by many of the religious establishments in the country, some idea can be formed of the vast landed property at this time in the hands of the clergy. The number of Parish Churches,

<sup>1</sup> *Annales Anglia*. Anno 1195, 1316. Add. MS. British Museum, 5444, p. 95.

<sup>2</sup> Stow's "Survey," p. 103.

according to Fitzstephen, was no less than 126, without the addition of the various Monasteries, Nunneries, and other establishments of like character. At this period the large number of towers and spires appears to have been out of all proportion to the other public buildings comprised within the limits of the City wall. If we include with them that magnificent edifice,—the old Cathedral of St. Paul's, —we can well imagine how picturesque was the aspect of old London as presented to the eye of an observer stationed on the southern bank of the River Thames. There were, doubtless, many crowded spaces, the roads and streets were narrow, and the projecting upper stories of the old timber-framed houses well nigh touched each other, but with all this the City archives afford innumerable instances of open spaces, land in the rear of buildings, and plenty of garden ground. In the transfer of property in the City, mention of gardens is of frequent occurrence, they would be a necessity to the social habits of the time; the citizen had to live where his daily occupation kept him, but the work of the day over, he could enjoy the pleasures of a garden together with orchards and in many cases vineyards.<sup>1</sup> The unoccupied space around Guildhall left that building almost isolated, for with the exception of the residences of Sir John de Banquell, Stephen Asshwy, and some few others, the Hall was encompassed by a religious atmosphere, a great portion of the ground being taken up by the churchyards of St. Mary Aldermanbury, St. Laurence in the Jewry, and St. Michael Bassishaw.

#### Parishes.

The division of the City into Parishes may doubtless be classed with its partition into Wards. The origin of such limitations has, however, not been very clearly ascertained. Some authorities have assigned the settlement of parochial boundaries to the seventh century, viz., about the year 673,<sup>2</sup> but it is probable that it dates from an earlier time, and that such limitations were governed by the previous disposition of the land. There is, however, legislation on the subject to be found in the laws of King Eadgar belonging to the tenth century. Blackstone asserts that such boundaries were governed by manorial limits, which is highly probable; there might be many manors in one parish, but it seldom happened that a manor contained more parishes than one. In the country, parochial and manorial boundaries usually coincide; but such a principle is not common to the City. In London there are examples of a parish being in one soke, ward, or manor and partly in another. In the Ward of Queenhithe there are three or more Parishes, and in Cordwainers' Ward but two only. The parochial boundary of St. Dunstan's in the East forms the central position in the Ward of Billingsgate. As a striking exception, however, the Ward of Bassishaw, or Basinghall, can be identified by the same boundaries, as is its Parish of St. Michael. This is one of the smallest of the civic Wards, but in it is situate an important section of the Guildhall, and, as we shall find hereafter, the disposal of land and tenements within its limits have been associated with various alterations and additions which have from time to time occurred in connection with the Hall. This also applies to the Ward of Cheap, a division containing the greatest number of Parish Churches. Of the thirty-five Churches destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666 and not rebuilt, there are no less than six now associated with this Ward: for example, Allhallows, Honey

<sup>1</sup> See "Some Account of the Ward of Vintry and the Vintners' Company." By W. H. Overall, F.S.A., in the "Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society," 1868.

<sup>2</sup> Spelman's "Concilia," fol. 1639, p. 152.

Lane, was attached to St. Mary-le-Bow ; St. Bennet Sherehog to St. Stephen's Walbrook ; St. Martin Pomary to St. Olave's, Jewry ; St. Mary Colechurch to St. Mildred's, Poultry ; St. Pancras, Soper Lane, to St. Mary-le-Bow ; St. Peter's at the Cross in Cheap to St. Mathew, Friday Street. The Church and Parish of St. Laurence in the Jewry, with which the Hall and its surroundings are so intimately connected, are likewise in the Ward of Cheap.

I have already referred to the various Churches with their burial-grounds adjoining, and the frequent references which appear in the City records to garden ground and open spaces, as illustrating how comparatively few must have been the number of dwelling-houses existing in this locality at an early period ; to the north of Cheap there must have been many vacant sites, with but here and there isolated buildings, many of these had doubtless been erected on the ruined foundations of the earlier city. Excavations, when carried to a sufficient depth, show this to have been the case ; for example, the Church of St. Michael, Wood Street, was reared upon Roman walls. Tesselated pavements have been found in Huggin Lane, Cateaton Street (now known as Gresham Street), Wood Street, and elsewhere in the vicinity, but in the district generally excavation shows the soil to have been of a boggy and unsubstantial character, such as in parts of Cheap itself and the large open site of Moorfields, the boundaries of which district closely adjoin the north side of Guildhall and its adjacent buildings. In the year 1091 "London was visited by a fearful wind which blew down seven churches, and houses to the number of six hundred. Above all the wooden roof of the Church of St. Mary-le-Bow was carried off and its beams were hurled to the ground with such force that they were driven into the ground to such an extent that they had to be sawn off where they stood."<sup>1</sup> This condition of the land was strikingly illustrated at the restoration of the Church of St. Laurence in the Jewry after the Fire. Sir Christopher Wren found it necessary when rebuilding the east end of that interesting structure to rear it upon a series of piles no less than 12 feet long and at a depth of 7 feet from the surface level. The buildings recently removed for the purpose of constructing the new Council Chamber at Guildhall exposed similar conditions in connection with the general unstable nature of the soil.<sup>2</sup> Fabyan,<sup>3</sup> the chronicler, recording the destruction of London by fire in the reign of Ethelred, A.D. 981, refers to this paucity of buildings. "Ye shall understande," says he, "that at this daye the Citye of London had most housynge and buylding from Ludgate towards Westmynstere, and lytell or none wher the chiefe or hart of the Citye is now, except that in dyvers places were housynge, but they stod without ordre." It is probable that in this conflagration a large number of buildings were destroyed, for they were

<sup>1</sup> See "William of Malmesbury," iv, 324 ; also the "Reign of William Rufus," by E. A. Freeman, Hon. D.C.L., LL.D., vol. i, p. 308.

<sup>2</sup> See post.

<sup>3</sup> There is much valuable and quaint information stowed away in the pages of this chronicle. Fabyan was a writer of repute at a period many years prior to the labours of Stow. He was Alderman of Farringdon Without. He served the office of Sheriff in 1493. In the "Repertories" belonging to the Corporation there is more than one reference to the general position he took in municipal affairs. In 1498, on the occasion of the Cornish Rebellion, he is among the officials appointed to keep the gates of Ludgate and Newgate. Shortly after he appears as an assessor on the City Wards for the customary fifteenths, which the City granted to the King towards the expenses of the Scottish wars. The interesting entry in his chronicle relative to the rebuilding of Guildhall in the reign of Henry IV, will be referred to hereafter.



but of a light and composite nature, erections of brick or stone not being introduced until a later period in the history of the City, when successive conflagrations demonstrated the necessity for buildings to be constructed in a manner which would be more durable and secure. In the years 1077 and 1092 there were extensive fires, in the course of which a great portion of the City was destroyed, and again in 1135, the first year of King Stephen's reign, a large amount of damage is recorded. A change, however, was brought about as time went on. In Fitz Aylwin's "Assize of Buildings" (Richard I), viz., in the year 1189, it is recorded:—"It should be remembered that in ancient times the greater part of the City was built of wood, and the houses were covered with straw and stubble and the like, hence it happened that when a single house had caught fire the greater part of the City was destroyed through such a conflagration, a thing that took place in the first year of King Stephen, when, by reason of a fire that broke out at London Bridge, the Church of St. Paul's was burnt, and the conflagration extended as far as the Church of St. Clement's-Danes. After this many of the citizens, to the best of their ability, to avoid such a peril, built stone houses covered with thick tiles, and were so protected against the fury of the flames." These precautions were still further improved by the regulations made at a second Assize. In the chronicles of Matthew Paris<sup>1</sup> we read that on the night of the translation of St. Benedict (11 July) A.D. 1212, a fire broke out which destroyed the Church of St. Mary in Southwark, part of the Bridge (then but recently completed), the Chapel on the Bridge, a considerable portion of the City, and part of the town of Southwark, about a thousand people, men, women and children, losing their lives. The conflagration raged no less than ten days; but hardly was it extinguished when the citizens began to adopt measures for repairing the effects of this calamity, and in their humble and inefficient way of taking precautions against its recurrence. They assembled in the Guildhall on the 24th of the same month, under the presidency of Henry Fitz Alwyne, the venerable Mayor who had given name to the previous Assize, and who was now on the verge of the grave, they at once promulgated a second code of improved regulations for rebuilding such parts of the City as had fallen a prey to the flames. In these, provision was made for the substantial repair or removal of all dangerous bridges. All houses which were covered with rushes or reeds, and which could be plastered, were to be put in such a condition within eight days, and every person who should build a house was to take care, "as he loved himself and his," that he did not cover it with reeds, rushes, stubble or straw, but only with tiles, shingles, boards or lead. It is probable that up to this period, whatever public buildings in connection with the official business of the citizens may have been in existence, were totally destroyed, so far as the superstructure was concerned, in one or other of the disastrous conflagrations above referred to.

The Guilds.

Intimately connected with the partition of the City into the divisions mentioned, and the varying details of local jurisdiction with which such would be associated, is the important position enjoyed in early, as in later, times by the "Trade Guilds"—the Livery Companies of modern days. To their gradual increase in wealth, influence, and power, in a city so purely devoted to commerce as was London, is to be attributed the existence of a building suitable to their requirements, when such was needed. The *Aula*

<sup>1</sup> See also "Liber Custumarum," H. T. Riley. Vol. ii, part i, Introduction, p. 32.

*publica*—the court-house, the hall of pleas—is represented in the Guildhall, the recognised building in which should be transacted such official business as would be connected with the Corporation generally, and with the Aldermen or Barons of the City.

The Guilds are of great antiquity ; much has been written concerning them, and as to what period in our civic history their organisation is to be attributed. Some authors have referred them to the Roman occupation, others to the introduction of Saxon customs ; others, again, speak of them as original institutions dating from the Middle Ages only. It is difficult to see with the amount of evidence at hand how any other than the first of these opinions can be accepted. Such combinations for the protection and regulation of every branch of industry would appear to be a necessity, and to form part and parcel of the requirements of all trading communities. The close analogy between the composition of our Guilds and the *Collegia opificum* of the Roman Empire must be more than a coincidence, and that the latter flourished in this country during the Imperial occupation can be abundantly proved ; but it can hardly be so easy to explain their disappearance for some few centuries, and then to note a revival of such institutions, presenting in their organisation so close a resemblance to what had preceded them, as to render it difficult for any candid inquirer to dis sever one from the other. With the Roman citizen his "College," or institution connected with his particular trade or profession, was a necessity, and his membership and association with it was an important feature in all belonging to his daily life. Were this not so, we should not find abroad so large a number of inscriptions associated with the interests of almost every art, trade, and profession which can be imagined. There are memorials to goldsmiths, carpenters, dyers, leather-sellers, smiths, tanners, ironmongers, musicians, architects, and every other branch of industry now familiar to ourselves.

Many illustrations might be quoted from the lists of inscriptions preserved in the great works of Reinesius, Orellius, Sponius, Gruter, and others, which unmistakably demonstrate the existence of what are no other than Roman guilds. Among the interesting series of letters from Pliny to Trajan<sup>1</sup> is preserved one in connection with a Corporation of smiths (*Fabri*) established at Nicomedia. Another important illustration has been recently discovered by Mr. Arthur J. Evans, F.S.A., in the course of his interesting researches in Illyricum ; and it bears more particularly on this portion of our subject, because it shows beyond question how usages and customs familiar to the citizens of Rome were practised, and continued to flourish as they did at home, even when transferred to the most distant provinces of the empire. In describing the municipal sites and mining centres situate in Dalmatia, Mr. Evans refers to the native industries common many centuries ago to the inhabitants of Salonæ, and speaks of the existence of a guild of artificers known as the *Collegium Fabrum Veneris*, quoting moreover a whole series of inscriptions which prove the important position once held by this Worshipful Company in the Roman city. Mention is made of its patrons and benefactors, prefects and decurions, and the Corporation, we are told, appears to have claimed a special jurisdiction in all that concerned its members. There is one particular inscription, which from its containing the name of the

<sup>1</sup> Epp. x, 42, 43.

Emperor Constans, may be assigned to the fourth century, viz., A.D. 333-7; and there are others quoted connecting this fraternity of "smiths" with official centres in the gold fields of Dacia.<sup>1</sup>

In some of the museums of the Continent there are, however, monumental records of similar institutions which have a still deeper interest from their closer association with our own. The site of Roman Gaul is, we know, far larger in dimensions than that occupied by Roman Britain. Its antiquities, however, and their history are strongly connected with ourselves. The monuments are very numerous, and they have in past days had the advantage of being more cared for and preserved than have our own; so that a wider field for enquiry exists abroad than is to be found in Britain, and the illustrations which abound are such as readily prove the close analogy which existed in all appertaining to the trading and industrial life of the two countries. In the collections in the Museum at Bordeaux, says Mr. Roach Smith, F.S.A.,<sup>2</sup> is a remarkably fine piece of sculpture which must have belonged to a large monument which represented workmen dragging along timber. M. Francisque Michel who has published an account of it with an engraving, believes it to refer to the "*dendrophori*" artisans, who felled trees and executed works in wood upon a large scale, such as bridges and engines of war. Several inscriptions at Lyons mention this Corporation under the appellation "*Collegium dendrophorum*," who at one time formed a most powerful combination; likewise the "*Fullones*" the cleaners and scourers of cloth. This, also, was an important Corporation in the days of the Empire. Mr. Smith has figured from the collections at Sens a monumental effigy of a master-worker: he is unmistakably engaged in the practice of his trade; the vintners or wine merchants, also, are not unrepresented. In the Hotel de Ville at Dijon is a bas-relief, like the former, a sepulchral monument illustrative of the craft or trade of the deceased. The sculpture represents the shop of a vendor of wine and grain, both of which commodities are seen to have been dispensed to the customers with graduated measures which were fixed upon the counter and discharged their contents through funnels into the vessels of the purchasers. Other details in connection with this particular trade appear, and the monument affords an excellent illustration of the manner in which both grain and fluids were measured and sold by the Romans. In the south of France in many towns the corn is measured and sold at the present day by a contrivance precisely the same in principle, and examples of the ancient measures themselves have been discovered. The wine merchants of old time were, as they are still, a wealthy and important Corporation. They are often mentioned in inscriptions as holding high positions and associated with the Corporation of *navtæ* or *navicularii*, also an important body of traders on the Saone and Rhone.

In addition to the foregoing, there is, moreover, important evidence of the existence of these "Collegia" in our own country. An inscription found at Chichester, "*Civitas Regnorum*," commemorates the "*Collegium Fabrorum*," the "Smiths," as already mentioned. Another has been noted from Castle Carey in Scotland, to the "*Collegium Ligniferorum*," or "Image Makers," and others might be quoted, but these are sufficient for the purpose. It may here be mentioned that even a German writer of celebrity, and

<sup>1</sup> See "*Archæologia*," vol. xlix. "*Antiquarian Researches in Illyricum*," by A. J. Evans, M.A., F.S.A.

<sup>2</sup> "*Collectanea Antiqua*," vol. v, p. 164. O. R. Smith, F.S.A. "*Collectanea Antiqua*," vol. vi, p. 27.



one whose works, apart from their internal merit, have acquired additional interest and value from their having been translated and annotated by an English antiquary, has remarked that these established Corporations of Rome, with which certain artisans and craftsmen were united, were extremely advantageous to them when they were removed into foreign provinces. "We find," he says, "much information concerning these Colleges in ancient inscriptions, and it is very probable that, together with the trades of Rome, this form of social unions, as well as the hereditary obligation under which they were conducted was propagated in Britain, and was the original germ of those Guilds which became so influential in Europe some centuries after the cessation of Roman dominion."<sup>1</sup> As coming from an author of naturally strong Teutonic predilections, this is saying a great deal, but I venture to submit it as a correct view of the subject.

It can readily be understood that when the Anglo-Saxons came, they found these important commercial organisations in full play, and, as Mr. Coote forcibly puts it, they left them to the Romans who remained, to make such use of as they pleased, possibly ignoring them, certainly neither interfering in their practice nor controlling their principles.<sup>2</sup> Their existence continued, but under another name. The barbaric term "*Gild*"<sup>3</sup> is substituted for "*Collegium*," but a comparison between the rules which are in existence belonging to both institutions shows them to be identical. The object of combination is practically the same in each case, viz., the formation of a fraternity or association for the mutual help of its members banded together under certain laws and regulations, formed for a good and useful purpose, either ecclesiastical or secular. One object especially common to all such fraternities was the ensuring provision for decent burial at the cost of the funds held by his colleagues, and to which the deceased had been a subscriber. *Gild*, *Guild*, or *Geld*, as defined by Herbert,<sup>4</sup> primarily means payment; derived, he says, from *Gildan*, to pay, and he quotes Spelman to the effect that *Gildare* of Domesday is synonymous with *solvere*, *reddere*, to pay, or render. Johnson describes its meaning as descriptive of "Fraternities originally contributing sums towards a common stock—a Corporation. The word is found in various tongues: Old French, *gilde*, société; Lacombe, Teut., *gilde*, societas contributionum; Kelian, Icel., *gilde*, *convivium*, symposium, *serenius*, a society, a fraternity or company combined together, by orders and laws made among themselves, by their prince's license. Hence, the common word Guildhall is derived, being a fraternity or commonalty of men gathered together, into one combination, supporting their common charge by mutual contribution." The late Mr. W. H. Black, F.S.A., however, was of the opinion that the word could be traced beyond a Teutonic root. He remarks that *Gild* is a true and pure British noun signifying *contribution*, or what is produced or contributed; and together with the British verb *gildiaw* (signifying to yield, produce, or contribute), and the derivations of the root *gil*, may be found in any Welsh Dictionary. Both the idea and the thing signified are Roman, and the name is purely British adopted by Saxon and Norman conquerors to express what they found

<sup>1</sup> Lappenberg's "England under the Anglo-Saxon Kings," translated by B. Thorpe, F.S.A. 1844. Vol. i, p. 34.

<sup>2</sup> "Romans of Britain," by the late H. C. Coote, F.S.A., p. 383.

<sup>3</sup> Often spelt "Guild," but the insertion of the *u* is unnecessary, and has no effect on the real meaning of the word.

<sup>4</sup> Herbert's "History of the Twelve Great Livery Companies of the City of London." Vol. i, p. 2.



existing among the natives. Hence, came the *geld* or *gild* (whether as a verb or as a noun) of the Anglo-Saxon laws and the *geldscipe*, the *geldum* and *geldare* of the Normans, the latter occurring perpetually in Domesday Book in the sense of *yielding* a revenue to the public Exchequer. The Anglo-Saxon legal word *gafol* (sometimes confounded with *geld* in sense) is but the British word *gafael*, meaning a tenure or holding, and is in like manner the origin of *gavelkind* and of other terms occurring in our laws and records. These and many other words hitherto referred to the Anglo-Saxon dialect for their etymology, and, by consequence, to a supposed Anglo-Saxon origin can be more satisfactorily traced to the old British language, and be explained by existing usage among the Welsh people; in the same manner as the most ancient names of places throughout Britain, Gaul, and Northern Italy, can be demonstrably explained by that language and by it alone. From this we may gather that a Guildhall would originally represent the appointed place at which the burgesses of a city would *yield* or pay their taxes, and this will account for the spelling of the word as it occurs in the early records of more than one of our municipal corporations; for example, the Guildhall at Reading is referred to in early documents as the *Yield Hall*, and, among the many references to that in London which exist among the City records, there are numerous instances of a like nature, for example, *the use of the said chambre of the Yeldehall* is no uncommon expression. The same may be noted in the various chronicles of the middle ages, and on maps and plans of the City belonging to the 17th Century. The forms usually adopted are—if by a French writer, *Guyhalle*, *Gihale*, *Gihalle*, *Guihale*, *Guihalle*, *Gyhale*; if in the Latin records, the word selected is usually either *Gihalda*, *Gilda Aula*, *Gildaula*, *Guihalda*, *Gyaula*, and *Gyhalda*, with occasionally other variations.

Gilda  
Mercatoria.

In some observations upon the Guilds, or Livery Companies of London, the late Mr. John Gough Nichols, F.S.A., has well remarked that in the history of such associations there may be noted three stages; the first, that of voluntary membership, the next, regulated by the general authority of the City, and the last, that of self-government, sanctioned by Royal Charters of Incorporation; and, speaking of the Mercers as the foremost of such fraternities, he observes that it is by no means improbable that they are the actual successors of the one general Guild—the Gilda Mercatoria, or Mercaria, a governing body holding a kind of prescriptive authority over the general trade of a city, both home and foreign, and one which was essential to the commercial interests of our towns and cities at the earliest period of their history. Such a body would include the various fraternities who were associated together simply for a mercantile purpose. A Merchant Guild existed at Winchester. The earliest Charter connected with the history of that City is one belonging to the reign of Henry II, and it acknowledges the Incorporation. At Oxford, also, and in the same reign, the Gilda Mercatoria appears no new thing to the Oxonians, for in a Charter<sup>1</sup> which illustrates how close was the connection between London and Oxford in all connected with their municipal life, such a Guild is mentioned—a circumstance affording internal evidence of a like authority in London, inasmuch as the liberties and privileges confirmed by this Charter are to be in common with those enjoyed in our own City; and it is further stated that the Mayor may serve as Butler at the coronation feasts—a privilege confined, it is said,

<sup>1</sup> "Notes and Queries," 6, Series xi. May 16, 1885. Note by C. J. Clark.

to the Cities of London and Oxford. The first Charter granted to the citizens of Bath was dated within six months after the accession of Richard I in the year 1189. It commands that the citizens, "who are of the Merchant Guild," shall be free from all toll, passage, lastage, and other customs, in the same manner as the citizens of the Merchant Guild of Winchester were.<sup>1</sup> It is evident from this that we can boast of the existence of a Corporation earlier than can the citizens of Bath. In the town of Andover there is a highly interesting collection of records connected with city life. It fortunately happens that these valuable memorials have fallen into such able hands as those of the Rev. C. Collier, M.A., F.S.A., Vicar of Andover, and the Rev. R. H. Clutterbuck, M.A. These gentlemen have been for some time engaged in arranging and transcribing the various rolls; and it is to be hoped that ere long they may be fully classified and accessible to the student. Among the Charters is an Incorporation of the "Guild of Merchants" by King John in the year 1204, and in this are confirmed the privileges granted by Henry II and King Richard. The Guild, as shown by the various entries throughout the series, appears to have been the governing body of the town, becoming, as time went on, more identified with the borough, and in character gradually merging into the Town Council, the fellowship of the Guild losing itself in the mere freedom of the borough, and the interests of the Guild fading into the business of the town. Such a condition explains the frequency with which the buildings formerly adapted to the requirements of the Guilds in country towns were converted into town-halls. This was especially the case at the abolition of the religious establishments in the reign of Henry VIII.

Richard I, born in the City of Oxford and with some respect for his native place, confirmed the above; and in the succeeding reigns of John and Henry III these powers and rights became considerably extended. In a Charter dated 1257, viz., the 42nd year of the latter reign, it is set forth that their Mayor is to be presented to the Barons of the Exchequer as is the Lord Mayor of London; and the citizens are to have the privilege of erecting turrets upon their walls. There is to be a Court of Hustings weekly, and as concerning pleas of the crown, they are to be in accordance with the laws of London. Among the records at Guildhall is one worth noting, as it marks the connection not only between the two places, but the determination on the part of the Oxonians to retain their rights, and see that they accord with those enjoyed by the metropolis. From the following it will be seen that they claim at London the same privileges as the Londoners, and the claim is allowed:—<sup>2</sup>

"Henricus, Dei gratia, etc Archiepiscopus, Episcopus, etc. Sciates nos concessisse, et hac Charta nostra confirmasse, burgensibus nostris Oxoniae, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quod ipsi et heredes sui in perpetuum habeant et teneant omnes libertates, consuetudines, leges, et quietancias subscriptas;—videlicet, quod habeant nominatim Gildam suam mercatoriam, cum omnibus libertatibus et consuetudinibus suis, in terris, in insulis et pasturis et aliis pertinentiis suis; ita quod nullus qui non sit de Gilda illa aliquam mercaturam faciat in burgo vel suburbio. Præterea concedimus et confirmamus eis, quod sint quieti de theolonio, et passagio, et omni consuetudine, per totam Angliam et Normanniam, per terram, et per aquam, per ripam maris, 'by lande and by strande.' Et habeant omnes alias consuetudines, libertates, et leges suas quas habent communes cum civibus nostris Londoniarum; scilicet, quod ad festum nostrum nobis servient cum illis de butelaria nostra, et faciant cum eis communiter mercaturam suam infra Londonias, et extra et in omnibus locis. Et si dubitaverint vel contenderint

<sup>1</sup> "Remarks on the Mercers, and other Trading Companies of London," by John Gough Nichols, F.S.A. See "Transactions, London and Middlesex Arch. Society," vol. iv, p. 131.

<sup>2</sup> See "Lib. Custumarum," vol. ii, p. 671. Charter of Henry III to Oxford.

de iudicio aliquo quod facere debeant, de hoc Londonias mittant nuntios suos; et quod Londonienses inde iudicabunt firmum et ratum habeant. Et extra burgum Oxoniæ non placent de aliquo unde calumniati sint, sed de quocunque in placitum ponantur, se disrationabunt secundum leges et consuetudines civium Londoniarum et non aliter; quia ipsi et cives Londinarum sunt de una et eadem consuetudine, lege, et libertate. Quare volumus, et firmiter præcipimus, quod prædicti Burgenses Oxoniæ, et eorum hæredes, in perpetuum habeant et teneant prædictas libertates, et leges et consuetudines, et tenuras suas, ita bene et in pace, libere et quiete, plene et honorifice cum socca et saccha, et thol, et them, et infangenethef, et cum omnibus aliis libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus, et quietationibus suis, sicut cives nostri Londoniarum eas habent. Hiis testibus etc., Datum per manum venerabilis patris Radulphi Ciocestrensis Episcopi et Cancellarii nostri, apud Westmonasterium, xvi<sup>to</sup> die Februarii, anno regni nostri tertio-decimo."

By this "Charter" King Henry grants and confirms to his citizens in Oxford, all those liberties, customs, laws, and rights which they had in the time of the King, his grandfather (Henry I), viz.:—Their *Gilda Mercatoria*, with all liberties and customs in land and islands, pastures, and otherwise pertaining thereto, so that no one who was not of the Gildall should carry on any merchandise in the City or its suburbs, except as was accustomed in the time of the said King, and also granted to them that they should be quit of tolls and passages, and all customs through all England and Normandy, by land and by strand. And that they should have all liberties, customs, and laws which they have in common with his citizens of London. And that at his festival they should serve him as those of his Butlery. And should do merchandise with him within and without London, and in all places. And if they should doubt or contend of any judgments which they ought to make in the matter, they should send their representatives to London, and what the Londoners should decide should have force and validity. And outside of the City of Oxford they shall not be impleaded of any one, by whom they are accused, but of everyone by whom they shall be placed in pleas, they shall defend themselves according to the laws and customs of the City of London, and otherwise because they and the citizens of London are of one and the same custom and law and liberty, which we will, and that they have their said liberties and laws and customs and tenures, so well and in peace, &c., with *sac* and *soc*, and *toll* and *beam*, and *infangtheof* and with all their other liberties and customs and rights, as fully as my citizens of London have them, &c.

EXTRACT FROM CITY RECORDS, LETTER BOOK E, FOL. 211.

"Virtute cuius carte et similiter virtute quorundam brevium que dominus Rex alias mandavit Maiori et Vicecomitibus Londoni que quidam brevia sunt in filacio inter brevia de communibus placitis de anno regis nunc primo, concordatum fuit per Simonem de Swanlond Maiorem, Nicholaum de Farndon, Iohannem de Grantham, Gregorium de Norton, Reginaldum de Conductu, Iohannem de Prestone, Ricardum de Hakeneye, Thoma de Leyre, Iohannem Priour et Henricum de Seccheford, Aldermannos, ac per quosdam cives in Camera Gihalde Londoni congregatos die Martis proxima post festum Sancti Michaelis Anno dicti Regis nunc quarto quod Burgenses Oxoni habeant omnes libertates suas quas petent per cartam predictam sicut alias concessum fuit eis tempore Ricardi de Betoyme Maioris et Aldermannorum anno regis nunc primo in hustengo de Communibus tento die lune in festo Sancte Margarete Virginis prout indorsatur in uno brevium predictorum de manu Andree Horn nunc Camerarii Gihalde eo tamen excepto, scilicet quod solvant custumas suas debitas de Tronagio per coketum, videlicet de lanis pellibus lanutis et coreis ducendis a portu Londoni usque partes transmarinas, et similiter quod solvant tronagium vinorum de vinis suis a partibus transmarinis eis venientibus et quod non possint vendere ad detailium in civitate predicta, et similiter quod non emant aliqua vina in grosso, in Londoni de mercatoribus extraneis ad revendum, sicut alias concordatum fuit tempore Radulphi de Sandewyco, custode Londoni et Aldermannorum, anno Regis Edwardi filii Regis Henrici vicesimo.

Postea ad hustengum tentum de Communibus placitis die lune proxima post festum Conversionis Sancti Pauli anno Regis Edwardi tertii post conquestum quinto, Concordatum fuit per Iohannem de Pulteneye Maiorum Nicholaum de Farndon, Ricardum de Betoyme, Iohannem de Grantham, Reginaldum de Conductu,



Iohannem de Prestone, Iohannem de Causton, Gregorium de Norton, Thomam de Leyre, Henricum de Seccheford, et alios Aldermannos quod Burgenses Oxon<sup>i</sup> habeant libertates suas quas habere consueverunt et quod sint quieti de teloniis et custumis in civitate Londoñ prout alias concordatum fuit tempore Simonis de Swanlond, Maiore, sicut continetur in albo libro memorandorum ubi eorum carta irrotulatur eo tamen excepto, videlicet quod solvant custumas suas debitas tronagio per cokettum scilicet de lanis pellibus lanutis et coriis ducendis a porta Londoñ usque partes transmarinas et tronagium vinorum a partibus transmarinis adducendorum, et quod non vendant ad detalium in civitate et quod non emant vina in grosso ad revendenda."

Quere cartam Oxon<sup>i</sup> in quinto folio retro ad hoc signum ☞

EXTRACT FROM CITY RECORDS, LETTER BOOK H, FOL. 283.

"Memorandum quod quarto die Septembris anno regni Regis Ricardi secundi decimo septimo venerunt hic corum Willelmo Staundon Maiore et Aldermannis Londoñ, Thomas Somersete Maior et Burgenses ville Oxon monstrantes dictis Maiori et Aldermannis quandam cartam dicta ville factam irrotulatam hic in Camara libro cum litera E. folio coiiij<sup>o</sup> et per dominum nostrum Regem modernum eis confirmatam ipsis Maiori et Aldermannis cum instantia supplicantes quatenus libertates in dicta carta contentas eis allocare dignarentur. Qui quidem Maior et Aldermanni inspectis allocacionibus dictis Burgensibus temporibus elapsis factis prout patet in dicto libro folio coxj<sup>o</sup> allocacionem carte predictae prout temporibus retractis facta fuit concesserunt."

Allocacio libertatum ville Oxon<sup>i</sup>.

A Charter of King Edward III, given at Nottingham the 10th May, in the first year of his reign was enrolled in the Chamber of London at Guildhall.<sup>1</sup> By virtue of this Charter, and likewise by virtue of certain letters directed by our Lord the King to the Mayor and Sheriffs of London, which letters are filed with the writs of Common Pleas of the first year of the King that now is, it was agreed between Simon de Swanlond, Mayor, Nicholas de Farndone and other Aldermen, and by certain citizens assembled in the Chamber of London at Guildehall, on the Tuesday next after Michaelmas Day, in the fourth year of the King's reign, that the burgesses of Oxford should have all the liberties which they ask by the said Charter, as was also conceded to them in the time of Richard of Betoyne, Mayor, and the Aldermen, in the first year of the King, that now is held in trust of the Community on Monday the Feast of St. Margaret the Virgin as endorsed on one of the said letters by the hand of Andrew Horn, now Chamberlain of Guildhall, this only excepted, that they shall pay their due customs of tronage by coket, viz., of wools, woolfels, and skins, taken from the Port of London, to parts across sea, and likewise that they shall pay tronage of wines, coming to them from parts across sea, and that they shall not sell in retail in the City, and likewise that they shall not buy any wine wholesale in London of foreign merchants to sell again as was agreed to in the time of Ralph of Sandwich, Custos of London, and the Aldermen in the 20th year of King Edward, son of King Henry.

It was afterwards agreed at the hustings of the Common Pleas held on Monday next after the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, in the fifth year of King Edward III, John de Pulteney, Mayor, and the other Aldermen being present, that the Burgesses of Oxford should have their liberties which they were accustomed to have, and should be quit of tolls and customs in the City of London, as it was agreed in the time of Simon of Swanlond, Mayor, as is contained in the *Liber Albus Memorandorum* (i.e. Letter Book E) where the said Charters are enrolled. This, excepted, &c.

In the same City records<sup>2</sup> it is noted that on 4th September, 17 Rich. II, Thomas Somerset, Mayor, and the Burgesses of the Town of Oxford, came before Sir W. Staunton, Mayor, and the Aldermen of London, showing to the said Mayor and

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book E, fol. 204.

<sup>2</sup> Letter Book H, fol. 283.



Aldermen the Charter of the said town enrolled in the Chamber here<sup>1</sup> to be by our said King now confirmed to them, and earnestly supplicating the said Mayor and Aldermen that they would be pleased to allot to them the liberties in the said Charter contained, and the Mayor and Aldermen having inspected the allocations to the said Burgesses made in past times as appears in the said Book,<sup>2</sup> agree to make the allocation of the said Charter as in times past. In 1355, there are quarrels between the University and the City which, for pacific reasons, lead to the resignation into the hands of the King of all the existing rights and privileges; but soon after, indeed in the same year, viz., on the 26th July, they are, with certain exceptions, restored. Confirmations are continued through succeeding reigns until the Grant of Incorporation by James I, the Charter by which the citizens are at present ruled.

The Dutch  
Guildhall.

In the Guildhall of London the old name survives, as it does in many other of our corporate towns where similar buildings are yet standing. The meetings of the Court of Common Council have furnished a model, which has been adopted by the Town Councils of other places. If changed in name, the use to which such a structure is applied remains the same, that being a recognised centre for the transaction of all municipal business connected with the well-being and advantage of the general community. There was, however, another Guildhall, existing within the civic precincts, known as the Dutch Guildhall, the "Aula Teutonicorum," the house of the Hanse Merchants. If not of earlier date than the English Hall, this building has in its traditions, which have come down to us concerning it, left so much interesting evidence of its importance and details of the foreign Aldermen and traders who resided within its walls that it deserves a passing notice. The interests of the foreign traders to whom the Hall belonged were at one time much involved, and often at variance with those of the citizens. In later days all this was changed, the commerce and trade of London being thrown open to foreigners and natives alike, but in the reign of Elizabeth her Government banished from England the Hanse Merchants, and the Mayor and Sheriffs of the time were instructed to repair to the Hall and order them to depart from her Kingdom by a certain day.

The  
Steelyard.

Of the old building, which gave the name to the locality, no trace exists. The Steelyard, once a familiar term, is all but forgotten, the Cannon Street Railway Station, its approaches, and the warehouses upon the river bank having involved the removal, and indeed the total destruction of all connected with the Hall. At one time the site was the centre of London trade, and the scene of its complete monopoly by the merchants of the Hanseatic League. As a confederacy, they existed in the eighth century, the traders being representatives of a number of the Continental towns who sent over their manufactures to London in exchange for hides, wool, tin, lead, and other products of British industry. They are mentioned in the reign of Ethelred, A.D. 979, as the Emperor's men who coming in their ships to Billingsgate "were accounted worthy of good laws." The Company was extensive. Its most important branch was the Easterlings, who had their factory and warehouses in the vicinity of the Steelyard. The Cologne merchants had part of Dowgate and disputes were constantly arising between the rival settlements, the result being an amalgamation described as the "Merchants of Almaine, who possess the house in London called the Dutch Guildhall." There are numerous references in the Harleian MSS., and elsewhere, to various grants from our English

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book E, fol. 204.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., fol. 211.

kings<sup>1</sup> to the Haunses or Stylyards, *alias Guildhala Teutonicorum*. This Hall, as described by Stow, "is large, built of stone with three arched gates towards the street, the middlemost whereof is far bigger than the others and is seldom opened. The other two be secured up. The same is now called the Old Hall." The only representation of its appearance from the river in the sixteenth century is that sketched by Antonio Van den Wyngaerde, an artist who came into this country with Philip of Spain, at the time of his marriage with the Princess Mary of England. The valuable view of London, as presented to the eye of this artist, is preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, and the portion which includes the view of the building above referred to—and, in addition, that of our own Guildhall—has been fac-similed in lithography, and appears in the present volume. The same applies to Hollar's View of London, published in 1647. In this way may be identified the limits to the Steelyard buildings as they existed in the seventeenth century.

Of the history of the Hall at the time the foreign merchants rejoiced in the possession of their home, but little, if anything, is known. That there was a building in which the municipal business of London was transacted, even in the days of the Empire, is more than probable, and doubtless at that time known as the "Aula Publica," but that such occupied the site of the present edifice is improbable. It would have been too far from the active and trading life of the busy city, external to the city wall, in a district of comparatively unoccupied land, morass and ditch, fields or gardens, and a few isolated buildings. Tradition, unfortunately, assists but little; where any can be traced, it usually possesses a shadow of truth, but nothing has descended in this way to associate Guildhall with the present site earlier than that which ascribes it to the reign of King Edward the Confessor, A.D. 1041-1066, and this is simply based on the circumstance that the Arms of Edward appear not only on one of the principal bosses in the Porch, but upon those in the Crypt and in other portions of the building, a fact which proves but little, for, as pertinently remarked by Mr. Nichols<sup>2</sup> in his brief but excellent description of the Hall, "the presence of these Arms gives little or no strength to the tradition, for their appearance among the general ornamentation would but illustrate a common practice in every age of ancient architecture to introduce such ornaments among the profusion of enrichments from motives of veneration, when, perhaps, those to whom they belonged were neither builders nor

The  
Guildhall.

<sup>1</sup> There is an interesting grant by King John to the Cologne merchants among the Charter Rolls at the Record Office, which is, so far as I am aware, hitherto unpublished. It reads as follows:—

CHARTER ROLL. 15 JOHN. MEMBRANE 3.

"John, by the grace of God, &c., to all, &c. Know you that we have quitclaimed our beloved citizens of Cologne (Coloff) and their merchandize from those two shillings which they were wont to give from their Guildhall of London and from all other customs and demands which belong to us in London and throughout all our land in England. We have granted also to them to go and to come safe into all our land of England as is aforesaid, and that they may freely go to fairs throughout all our land, and buy and sell both in the town of London and elsewhere as the charter of lord King Richard, our brother, which they have thereof, saving the liberty of our City of London, reasonably witnesseth. Wherefore, we will and firmly order that the aforesaid citizens of Cologne may have the aforesaid liberties and free customs throughout all our land of England as is aforesaid. Witness, G. son of Peter, Earl of Essex, W. Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, and many others. Given as above (by the hand of Master R. de Mar) at Corfe, 24th July in the same year (15th) (A.D. 1218)."

<sup>2</sup> "A brief account of the Guildhall of the City of London," by J. B. Nichols, 1819.

benefactors." It may, however, be remarked, upon the other hand, that the belief is one which evidently existed when the later Hall was built, otherwise the shield would hardly have been selected as a companion to the only other boss of importance in the Porch which has for its ornamentation the Arms of Henry VI, with whose reign so much in connection with the Hall, Porch and Chapel is associated.

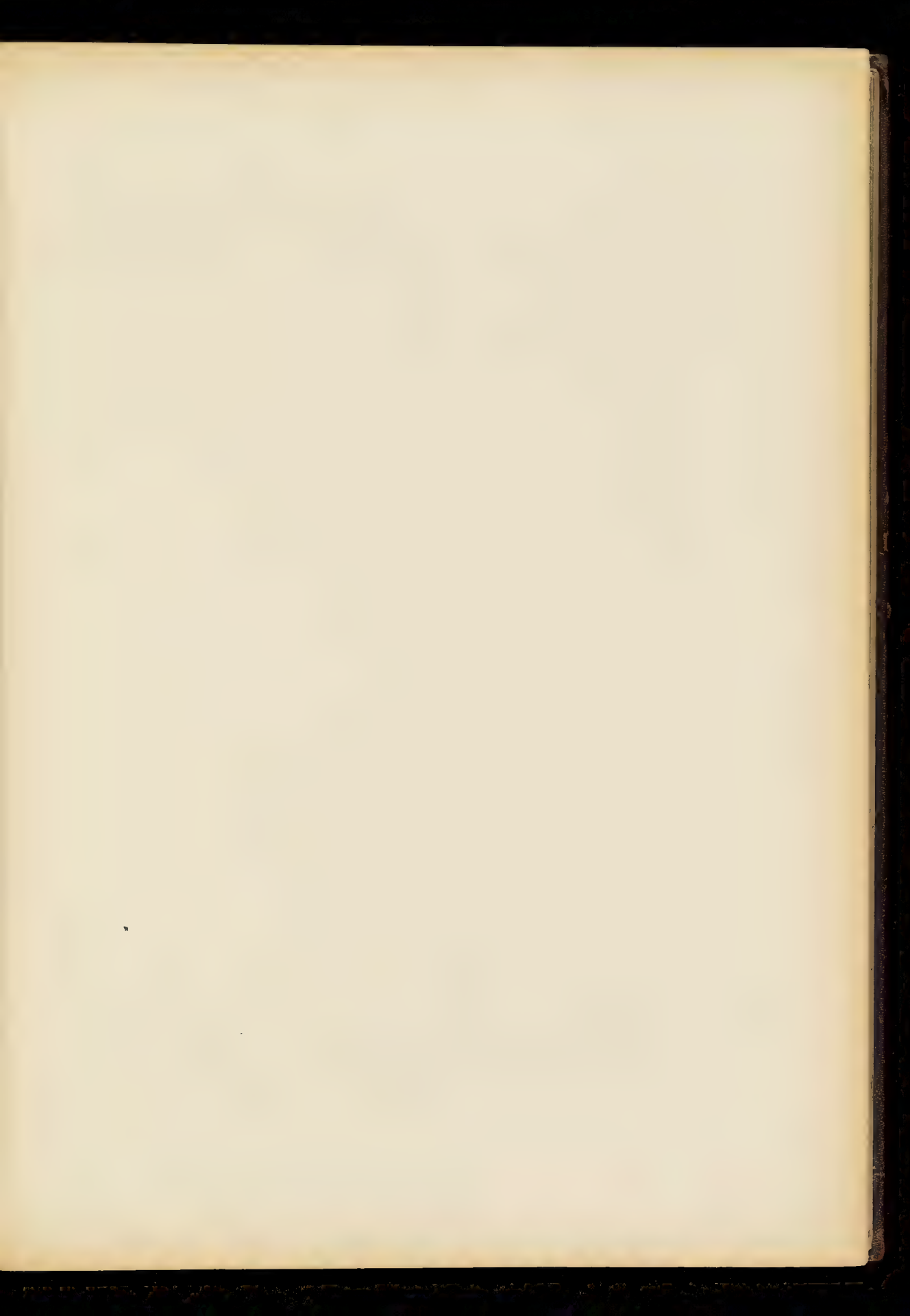
Stow asserts that the first Guildhall was situated on the east side of Aldermanbury, a street which, he says, took its name from the Aldermen keeping their "bery" or "court," but now called the Guildhall, which Hall of old time stood on the east side of the same street, not far from the west end of Guildhall, now used. Touching the antiquity of this old "Alderman's burie" or court, I have not read, says he, other than that Richard Renery<sup>1</sup> one of the Sheriffs of London in the 1 Richard I, which was in the year of Christ 1189, gave to the Church of St. Mary at Osney, by Oxford, "certain ground and rents in Aldermanbury of London, as appeareth in the register of that Church, as is also entered into the hoistings of the Guildhall in London." With the exception of this, for which Stow gives no authority other than what he has "read," there has been, hitherto, no published information in support of the truth of the tradition. A lengthened search has, therefore, been made among the many literary treasures possessed by the various Colleges at Oxford, and among those preserved in the Library at Christchurch; I have succeeded in identifying the actual book from which the good old antiquary derived his information, and there appears to be every reason to believe that if not actually at one time in his possession, he had full access to the interesting contents of the volume.<sup>2</sup>

The Abbey of St. Mary Oseney was founded in the year A.D. 1129 on one of the islets made by the river and near to the castle of Oxford; it was established at the desire

<sup>1</sup> This Richard Fitzreiner, or, as he is sometimes styled, Richard Reynere, was in the year 1189 associated with Henry de Cornhill as "portreeve" and "sheriff" respectively. They were both concerned in the attempt which at this time was being made by King John to acquire the throne during the absence of his brother Richard, who had left England for the Crusades. The latter had, prior to his departure, left Chancellor William, Bishop of Ely, as his viceroy, and had at the same time enjoined on his brother a limited absence from his kingdom. John, however, returned to the country with undoubted intentions of usurping his brother's place. He raised a party against the Chancellor, and on his deposition procured himself the appointment of viceroy. This party the citizens had greedily joined, and on the 7th October, 1191, the two officials above mentioned called a burghmote in "*aula publica quæ a potorum conventu nomen accepit*," and there it was determined by the citizens to side with John in his attempt on the throne. Although evidence is wanting, this can hardly refer to any other building than the first Guildhall. "On the following day, after the King's appointment, the citizens obtained the solemn concession of the long desiderated mayoralty, combined with a parliamentary ratification of their title." \* The portreeve, though under the new regime subordinate to the mayor, continued to be appointed by the crown until the first year of John, when that King by Charter waived the now useless right in favour of the citizens. The latter thenceforward appointed, and have continued to appoint, the "portreeve," under the name of "Sheriff of London."

<sup>2</sup> Among some of the works which the writer had the opportunity of seeing at the Bodleian Library was one from which is extracted the following. It will be seen that this volume is probably that which, at one time, was in the hands of Stow, and borrowed of him by a Mr. Thynne. How this can have been, it is difficult to understand. Stow himself speaks of a William Thynne, Esq., in the reign of Henry VIII, as associated with the publication of the works of the poet Chaucer. It is possible that the Fr. Thynne mentioned in the following is the same individual:—"Notes taken out of the great Leger Book belonging to Osney, borrowed of Mr. Stow, A.D. 1591, by Fr. Thynne. MS. penes Io. Anstis arm, Senem, Abbatem Osneiensium ad A.D. 1435 et Registrum Chartarum hujus Monasterii MS. in Bibl. Cotton, Vitellus, E. xv, 23. In Bibl. Harleiana MS. 60, fol. 14 Taxationem possessionem Abbatis de Osney in Diocesi London."

\* See "London Notes," A Lost Charter. "The Tradition of London Stone," by H. C. Coote, F.S.A. "Transactions, London and Middlesex Archaeological Society," vol. v.





[illegible][illegible]

of Edith, wife of Robert D'Oyly, formerly mistress of Henry I. The endowments were very great, but by a second Charter they became more extensive; for, in addition to the other donations, the endowment of the Collegiate Chapel of St. George, within the castle of Oxford, was acquired. This had been founded in the year 1074 by the uncle of the said Robert, one Roger de Oilei and Roger de Ivery. Robert, the founder of Oseney, died before or about A.D. 1157.<sup>1</sup> At the creation of the bishoprics by Henry VIII in the year 1542 it was selected by the King for the seat of the newly-founded see of Oxford. Its revenues, sites, and muniments, together with the see itself, were subsequently transferred to Christchurch. Its muniments had been codified in three Chartularies preserved in the Cottonian Library, the Record Office, and in the Chapter House of Christchurch. The first, which is the earliest, contained principally the evidences belonging to the City of Oxford. This suffered considerably in the unfortunate fire which destroyed many of the Cotton MSS. in the year 1731. It is still preserved in the British Museum, but is a collection of burnt fragments.<sup>2</sup> The MS. in the Record Office is but a translation or abstract of certain documents in a hand of the time of Henry VI. That which was most likely to have the information needed was the third, viz., the Christchurch Chartulary which contains the evidences of possessions and properties outside the City of Oxford. This particular Chartulary was compiled in the time of William de Sutton, Abbot of Oseney, about 1275 (*i.e.* between 1267 and 1284). It was given to Christchurch in exchange for the "*Annales Burtoniensis*" by Sir Robert Cotton, as appears by a note in Sir Robert's hand on folio 1. His autograph also appears at the bottom of the last leaf. It is a valuable volume comprising some 400 pages of the highest interest. It is written in a variety of hands, and contains a full record of the earliest possessions of the Abbey in a vast number of districts, and is a curious illustration of their extent in early times. The different properties are distributed in nearly a hundred different localities; and among the numerous places mentioned appears the City of London. The properties referred to occupy in their description five pages only of the book; but, relating, as they do, not only in a highly important manner to the district more particularly under our consideration, but to other well-known localities, combined with the mention of names once familiar to the citizens at large, it has been thought desirable to print a translation in full of two of the pages as they stand in this unique and interesting volume. In addition to the courteous permission of the authorities at Christ Church College to do this, they have likewise allowed us to fac-simile two of the pages from the book, and include them in the present work. A full translation of the various entries is given in the Appendix, with the exception of the paragraph which includes the reference to Aldermanbury, or "*Aldermansberia*," as it appears in the original. This is as follows:—

"CHARTRE OF RICHARD, SON OF REYNER, CONCERNING AN ANNUAL RENT OF EIGHT SHILLINGS.

To all the sons of the holy Mother Church, Richard, son of Reyner, greeting. Know ye all of you that I have given, granted [*&c.*] to the Church of Saint Mary of Oseney, the land and rent which William Lenric held of my father and of me, by hereditary right in Aldermansberry, to wit, a rent of eight shillings, and all the right which I held of the same land, for the health of the souls of my father and mother and of my ancestors and of my soul, and

<sup>1</sup> See Dugdale's "*Monasticon Anglicanum*," vol. vi, part i, p. 249, also Kennett's "*Par. Antiq.*" new edit., vol. i, p. 157.

<sup>2</sup> Vitell, E. xv. See, also, "*Calendar of Charters and Rolls*," Bodleian Library, Oxford; preface to p. 11.



especially for the soul of my brother John together with his body buried at Oseney for making an anniversary of his death. And the Convent there shall render annually to me and my heirs two pence half-penny within the octaves of Easter for every service [ &c. ]. And I and my heirs will acquit that land to the lord of the fee of the service which belongs to the same land, and will guarantee it to the aforesaid Church against all persons. These being witnesses."

There is, in the foregoing, a distinct reference to Aldermanbury, and if Stow be correct in his opinion, there can be little doubt that it was in this, even up to the present time, narrow thoroughfare that the old Guildhall was situate. I am aware that his derivations are frequently of an imaginary kind,<sup>1</sup> indeed, oftentimes ludicrous, but in this instance he is on safer ground. It may be assumed, for example, that the termination Bery, in connection with the names of places, is either derived from the Saxon *berg*, a hill, or *burg*, indicative of a walled town or city, identical with "burgus" or "borough," with which it may often be confounded; or Bury may be taken in the sense of house or mansion, for example, Canonbury, or the Canons' house; or Cashiobury, a detached seat in Cashio Hundred; Gorham Bury, the mansion of Robert de Gorham, Abbot of St. Albans, or Barnsbury at Islington, the manor held by Ralph de Berners in the 13th century, and in whose family the property was held for generations. Bucklersbury, again, represents the residence of the Bukerels, or Bokerels, a member of which family was Lord Mayor, A.D. 1231-1237.<sup>2</sup> Finsbury<sup>3</sup> or Fynesbury, also, is another illustration. The family of Finnes or Fynes were owners of the land, and had their "*bur*," *burh*, or residence, there. It was two members of this ancient family who gave the district known as Moorfields to the City of London.

There is, moreover, an interesting entry in the "City Records," which is referred to here, because of the illustration which it affords to the truthfulness of Stow, with respect to the above-mentioned derivation. The extract is from the Hustings Rolls, and refers to the transfer of certain property, of which we have to speak at greater length hereafter, in connection with the possessions of the Master and scholars of Balliol College, Oxford. The property in question, the soke of St. Wynewall together with certain houses, was in the parish of St. Laurence in the Jewry, which are described as being near to the cemetery of the Church of St. Laurence. The entry is as follows:—

Carta Magis-  
tri et scola-  
rium domus  
de Ballio  
Oxon.

Dictis Die et Anno venit Hugo de Vyenna Canonicus Ecclesie Sancti Martini Magni London' Dedit Concessit et Carta sua confirmavit Magistro et scholaribus Domus Diete de Ballio in Oxon sokam Sancti Wynewall quam habuit

<sup>1</sup> Lothbury, upon the south side of which is the Jewry, provides an illustration of this. Stow says, "the street of Lothberie, Lathberie or Loadberie (for by all these names have I read it), took the name (as it seemeth) of 'berie' or court of old time there kept, but by whom is grown out of memory. This street is possessed for the most part by founders that cast candlesticks, chafing dishes, spice mortars, and such like copper or laton works, and do afterward turn them with the foot, and not with the wheel, to make them smooth and bright with turning and scratching (as some do term it), making a *loathsome* noise to the by-passers that have not been used to the like, and therefore by them *disdainfully called Lothberie*"; other etymologies have been given by various writers. The most ingenious, and one which is probably correct, is that recently suggested by Dr. Freshfield, in his interesting work, "On the Parish Books of St. Margaret's Lothbury, St. Christopher-le-Stocks, and St. Bartholomew by the Exchange, in the City of London." Both Lothbury and Ludgate, he remarks, "may be derived from the word *lode*, which in some parts of England still means a cut or drain leading into a larger stream. In both these cases the name would be appropriate, for Ludgate leads to the Fleet Ditch or River, and Lothbury runs over the course of the Wallbrook." St. Margaret de *Lodebury* occurs in the Hustings Rolls, under date 1261, and in later entries.

<sup>2</sup> He officiated as butler at the coronation of the good Queen Eleanor and was doubtless of Italian extraction, the family being known as Boccherilli. He died during his mayoralty in the year 1237, Richard Renger succeeding for the remainder of the year.

<sup>3</sup> See Kemble's "Saxons in England," vol. i, p. 59 (edit. 1876); Bosworth's "Anglo-Saxon Dictionary" (edit. 1882); also "Records of St. Giles, Cripplegate," by Rev. W. Denton, M.A., edit. 1883, p. 90.

die confecionis Huius Carte in parochia Sancti Laurentii in Iudaismo London' et quatuor Domos et Reditus cum advocacione predictae Ecclesie cum pertinentiis que habuit ex dono et concessione magistri Hugonis de Wychambrook scilicet illas quatuor domos sitas iuxta cimiterium dicte Ecclesie Sancti Laurentii ex parte Aquilonari inter domum Stephani Asswy ex parte occidentali et Bur' de la Guildhall ex parte orientali. . . .<sup>1</sup>

It will be seen from the above that the houses mentioned were in close proximity to the *Bur' de la Guildhall*, and this expression has more than ordinary interest because it shows the use of the word, as applied to the Hall in the 13th century. In the title deeds connected with the same property, which are preserved at Balliol College, the same boundaries are set out, but the expression selected for the reference to the Hall is *Curiam de la Guyldhalle*. The word *Curia* signifies a hall, court, or any building appropriated to meetings of the Senate or Council. It was used by the Latin writers. There was a Hall, or Moot House, in connection with each of the thirty-five regions, or Wards, in Rome. The *Curia Municipalis* referred to by Vitruvius is understood by modern translators as a state-house, or Guildhall, and the word which is of frequent occurrence in the documents of the Middle Ages is comprehensive, and quite applicable to the uses of the present building.

In addition to this, there is the corroborative evidence which exists in the foundations of the present Hall. The historian writes that "the Hall of old time stood on the east side of the same street, not far from the west end of the Guildhall now used." The building to which he refers is the enlarged structure which was finally completed in the 15th century, and it is the west end which has so many indications of having belonged to the first building. The old entrance, moreover, to the Hall is known to have been in Aldermanbury, and I am informed by the Rev. C. C. Collins, M.A., Vicar of the Parish, that at the time when the premises, now occupied by Messrs. Courtauld & Co., were erected, at the corner of Three Nuns' Court and exactly opposite the east window of the Church, it was reported that traces were found of early masonry, and what might well have been an opening associated with the entrance to Stow's "Court" or "Berry," viz., the first Guildhall.

There is, in addition, the still earlier reference to the locality under the same name which occurs in the List of the lands held by the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's before referred to. This is nearly a century earlier than that given by Stow, and in it are mentioned the Canons of the soke of "Aldremanesberi" and also certain lands held by Wlured in the same district, both described as being in the Ward of Alwold, better known in modern days as the Ward of Cripplegate. Of the William Leurie who is mentioned in the Chartulary we know nothing; in the St. Paul's documents Leuricus, the Provost, is mentioned, a circumstance shewing that there was a family bearing this well-known name of distinction in the city. Stow does not refer to any such name in his list of Portgraves, Provosts and Mayors. He mentions one Leofstane, a goldsmith, as filling the office in the reign of Henry I. He was probably the same individual who was included among the fifteen burgesses who assembled in the Priory of the Holy Trinity in the year 1125. Henry's reign extended from the year 1114 to 1135. So the said Leuricus may well have held the position of Provost during a portion of this time. It is also likely that there may have been some family connection between him and the

<sup>1</sup> "Hust. Roll, No. 23," Deed No. 79. Enrolled, Monday after the Feast of S. James Apostle, 22 Edward I, 1293.



William Leuricus who had the transaction with Richard, the Sheriff. It is, in any case, evident that this name, of Saxon origin, was represented by individuals of note, from the active part they appear to have taken in the municipal life of London during the early part of the twelfth century.

In the City archives there is, however, an interesting entry which distinctly associates Aldermanbury with the western end of the Guildhall. It appears in one of the Letter Books, is written in Norman French, and from it we gather that at the time of the transaction recorded, the west entrance was open to the roadway, that is if the meaning of the chronicler, which is somewhat obscure, is correctly interpreted. The name of the street does not appear; but the position of the building and its relation to it, is sufficient for identification, inasmuch as the distinguished merchant referred to, is known to have resided in Aldermanbury, and to have been buried in the Parish Church. Sir William Estfelde, Estfeold, or Eastfield, as it is sometimes written, was one of the "men of worship" who, as Stow says, resided in one of the "fair houses" which were standing on both sides of the street. He was a great benefactor, and was connected with the bringing of water from Tybourn to a conduit erected near to his dwelling-house. He was a member of the Mercers' Company, and Mayor in the years 1430 and 1438 respectively. From the following, which is an actual transcript of the original with a literal translation, it appears that Sir William was desirous of erecting a Chapel in connection with his residence, and he applied for leave to construct a "Hauptas," or "Haultpace" for the purpose. Such an addition would be a raised floor in a bay window, a stage or platform, a landing in a flight of stairs, or, as in this case, a projection from the main building; the position in relation to the Hall is defined, as are also the dimensions of the land which was rented to Sir William.<sup>1</sup>

Un haultpace grante  
a W. Estfeld par le  
Rent dune verge et une  
rose pur le Mair au  
Pentecost.

As toutz iceulz qi cestee  
presentes lres verront Henry  
Barton Mair Audermans et  
Communalte de la Cite de  
Loundres salut en Dieu.  
Sachez nous avoir granteez  
et confermees a William Estfeld  
Citein et Mercer de Loundres  
de faire ete difier une haultpace pour une Chapelle issant  
hors del Maisoun de mesme le Wifm vers le Est tanqe au  
fin du nfe cõe Sale appelle La Guyhaft vers le West  
contenant en longueur perentre Est et West vingt et  
oept pees et en laeure perentre South et North douze  
pees et dis pounces dassaise avoir et tenir le dit hault-  
pace ency a edifier audit Wifm sez heirs et assignez as  
toutz jours. Rendaunt ent annuellement en le jour de  
Pentecost au Mair de la dit cite pur le temps esteant  
une verge convenablement appareille ove une rouge Rose  
desuis en le somet dicelle verge pur estre porter en  
manere accoustume devant le Mair alaunt en procession  
de leglise de Seint Petres en Cornhulle tanqe al  
Mynstre de Seint Paules et y estre offert solonc Leancien  
custume dedit Cite. En tesmoignance du quel le cõe  
seal du dit Cite est mys as icestes. Donne a Loundres  
le sisme jour Daugst lan du Regne le Roy Henry  
Sisme puis el conquest septisme.

A "haultpace" granted (To all those who shall see these  
to W[illiam] Estfeld, at present letters, Henry Barton,  
the rent of a rod and a Mayor [and] the Aldermen and  
rose for the Mayor at Commonalty of the City of  
Pentecost. London, Greeting in God.

Know ye that we have granted and confirmed to William  
Estfeld, citizen and mercer of London, that he may  
make and build a "haultpace" for a Chapel issuing  
from outside the house of the same William towards  
the east, up to the end of our Common Hall called "La  
Guyhall" towards the west, containing in length  
between east and west twenty-eight feet, and in breadth  
between south and north twelve feet and ten inches of  
assize; to have and to hold the said "haultpace" so to  
build, to the said William his heirs and assigns for ever.

Rendering yearly, on the day of Pentecost, to the  
Mayor of the said City for the time being a rod con-  
veniently appareled with a red rose at the summit of  
this rod to be carried in manner accustomed before the  
Mayor going in procession from the Church of S. Peter  
in Cornhill to the Minster of S. Paul's, and there to be  
offered, according to the ancient custom of the said City.  
In witness whereof the common seal of the said City  
is put to these. Given at London, the sixth day of  
August, in the seventh year of the reign of King Henry  
the Sixth since the Conquest [A.D. 1428].

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book K, fol. 73b.







If the association between Guildhall and the Parish of St. Mary Aldermanbury is as interesting as we venture to think it, that between the Parish of St. Laurence in the Jewry and the Hall is even more so, for both the Church and its site, together with all the traditions connected with their history, are to the present day identified with the Hall. The greater part of the land upon which the building stands is in the Parish of St. Laurence. Upon the walls of its interesting Church are preserved the few that remain of the slabs and monuments which at one time were in existence in the Chapel which adjoined the Hall. With the exception of the raised Dais, or Hustings, at the east end, which is in the Parish of St. Michael Bassishaw, and a small portion of the building at the western end, comprising, according to the authorised plan, as it stood in the year 1750, the kitchen, pantry, and other offices, together with a yard likewise in the same Parish: the whole of the area enclosed by the four walls of the Hall is in the Parish of St. Laurence and in the Ward of Cheap. These additional offices appear to have occupied the space which divided the Parish of St. Laurence from that of St. Michael, and likewise defines the boundary between the Ward of Cheap and Cripplegate Within. A glance at the accompanying plan of the Wards and Parishes will illustrate better than can any written description the actual position. This plan is but a copy of that issued by the Ordnance Survey, and the lines added in colours are so arranged as to indicate at once the position of the Hall, and its relation to the immediate locality. The limits of the Ward of Cheap may be readily identified. This was a Ward of comparatively late date, and a portion of it (which is now identified with the Hall) represents what was once included in the Ward of Bassishaw. From this plan it will be seen that, while the building itself is in Cheap, the greater number of its offices are to be found in Bassishaw, and some few in the Ward of Cripplegate Within. It may be as well to mention here that there are some few discrepancies between the boundaries as laid down upon the plan and the position of the plates which mark the division of the respective Parishes; for example, it is well known that the old Guildhall Chapel was in the Ward and Parish of St. Michael Bassishaw; a plate however, upon the building, which now occupies the site of the Chapel, would lead to the idea that it was in the Parish of St. Laurence.<sup>1</sup> There are, also, other variations of a like nature which, without careful comparison, are apt to lead to error and confusion.

Among the many literary treasures in which the libraries at Oxford abound is one preserved among the muniments at Balliol College, which connects the history of the Church

<sup>1</sup> Upon the south wall of the Hall, walking from east to west, there may be observed upon the first column of the series which defines the respective bays, metal plates, marking the boundary of St. Michael Bassishaw in 1740, and that of St. Laurence in the Jewry, as agreed upon in the year 1744, the line of demarcation being precisely that which identifies the raised platform or dais, in other words—the hustings. The present wooden screen work is finished at this particular column. In the second bay, in which now stands the memorial to William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, there are no parochial marks; but in the next division, and to the right of William Beckford's monument, there may be observed near to the columns the boundary plates of St. Michael Bassishaw, 1815, and St. Laurence Jewry of the same date. In the fourth bay there are no plates; between it and the next comes in the Porch, and no further marks are seen until near to the gallery at the west end of the Hall, where closely adjoining the wooden effigy of Gog may be noted plates in connection with the parish of St. Michael Bassishaw, 1815, and St. Laurence Jewry, 1863. Upon the northern wall of the Hall, and on the columns opposite to the above are two marks, viz., those of St. Laurence Jewry, and St. Michael Bassishaw, 1850. There are no other plates until the dais, or hustings, are reached when upon the column opposite to that upon the south wall, there may be seen three boundary marks, viz., one for Cheap Ward, 1680, St. Michael Bassishaw, 1784, and St. Laurence Jewry, 1854. In the North Court now devoted to the trial of civil actions, and immediately over the Judge's chair are two plates, viz., one for St. Laurence, and the other for St. Michael Bassishaw.



and Parish of St. Laurence in the Jewry with the early days of Norman rule. This document is a grant for life from one of the religious houses in France of the Church, together with certain rents of adjacent land and other property to one John their clerk; and it illustrates in an highly interesting way not only the ownership of both the Church and its site, but it is the earliest of the large number of title-deeds which associate the College with the Parish and further with numerous transactions between the authorities and the Corporation of London with respect to the transfer of property in the immediate vicinity of Guildhall. This parchment may be assigned to the early part of the twelfth century, and it is, fortunately, in excellent preservation. The present Vice-Chancellor of the University has courteously allowed it to be photographed, and thus enabled us to produce a fac-simile of one of the earliest manuscripts upon record, in connection with the history of a City Church. The words in the document are abbreviated in accordance with the practice of the time. The following is, however, an accurate transcript of the original, made by Reginald R. Sharpe, D.C.L., of the Town Clerk's Office at Guildhall.

"Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Robertus Abbas Sancti Salvii et Sancti Guingualoei de Monasterio et totus eiusdem ecclesie conventus concessimus et dedimus Johanni de Sancto Laurentio clerico nostro imperpetuam elemosinam ecclesiam beati Laurentii de Londoni cum omni redditu quem habemus in ciuitate Londoniarum scilicet lx et xii solidos et vi denarios de terra quam Guillelmus filius Ysabel tenet de nobis viii solidos et de terra quam Alulphus filius Fromundi tenet de nobis v solidos et de terra quam Guillelmus senex tenet de nobis viii solidos et de terra quam heredes Petri filii Galteri tenent de nobis vii solidos. De terra quam Gillebertus cisor tenet de nobis iiii solidos, de terra quam Philippus sellarius tenet de nobis iiii solidos, de terra quam Radulphus de Winton' tenet iiii solidos, de terra quam Aaron Judeus tenet iiii solidos, de terra quam Rogerus illefostre tenet iiii solidos, de terra quam Alwinus Finke tenet xviii denarios. Habendam et tenendam de nobis libere et honorifice omnibus diebus uite sue pro iiii marcis ad maius pondus singulis annis ad natiuitatem Sancti Johannis Baptiste reddendis. Et Johannes iurauit quod redditum predictum non alienabit pro posse suo ab ecclesia nostra. Et si forte dominus abbas vel eius nuntius in Anglia pro censu uenerit procurabit eum predictus Johannes per duos dies, et quamdiu ibidem pro defectu iiii predictarum marcarum moram fecerit ad sumptum prenominati Johannis erit, nisi vero Johannes presens fuerit procurator suus de censu respondebit. Ut autem hec concessio et donatio nostra rata habeatur illam sigillorum nostrorum auctoritate confirmauimus et corroborauimus. His testibus, Domino Balduino Priore, Remigio, Nicholao, Hugone de Berniunt, Symone Petro, Johanne, Alelmo Monachis, et toto capitulo eiusdem ecclesie et magistro Gilleberto, Giroldo et Laurentio ru (*sic*) et Fulcone presbiteris. Petro clerico, Guillelmo Nepoti dicti abbatis. Guillelmo filio Ysabel, Alnfo filio Fromundi, Guillelmo Sene, Johanne filio Roberti, Galfrido Blondo, Eustachio Mercerio, Rogero Clerico et multis aliis."

By this instrument Robert the Abbot of St. Sauve and St. Guingualcous of Montreuil, and all the convent of that Church, give and grant to John of St. Laurence, their clerk, in perpetual alms, the Church of St. Lawrence of London, and all the rents which they have in the City of London, viz., 72s. 6d., made up as follows:—<sup>1</sup>

	s.	d.
Of the land which William the son of Isabel holds of us ... ..	8	0
Of the land which Alulph the son of Fromundus holds of us ... ..	5	0
Old William ... ..	8	0
The heirs of Peter the son of Walter ... ..	7	0
Gilbert the cisor (tailor) ... ..	4	0
Philip the sellarius (saddler) ... ..	4	0
Ralph of Winchester... ..	4	0
Aaron the Jew ... ..	4	0
Roger Illefostre ... ..	4	0
Alwin Finke ... ..	1	6
	49	6

<sup>1</sup> It will be seen that the amount given as above is not in accordance with that to be received—the difference does not appear to be accounted for.

S ciant presentes et futuri quod ego Robertus abbas Sancti Salvii et Sancti Guinivaldei de mon  
 astorio quondam eiusdem ecclesie concessimus quodcumque Robertus de sancto laurence. clero nostro ipse  
 am elemosinam etiam in lauracum de london. cum omni redditu qui habemus in civitate london  
 rum. scilicet lx. xxi. lot. xvi. d. de terra qui buillm. fit ylabel tenet de nob. viii. lot. yd terra qui alul  
 ph fit tromdi tenet de nob. x. lot. yd terra qui buillm. senex tenet de nob. viii. lot. yd terra qui  
 heredel per filium balu tenet de nob. vii. lot. De terra qui gulleter clor tenet de nob. iii. lot.  
 de terra qui philipp sellari tenet de nob. iii. lot. de terra qui kadulf d'wint. tenet. iii. lot.  
 de terra qui daron jude tenet. iii. lot. de terra qui Rog' illefolre. tenet. iii. lot. de terra qui  
 Alfr' in linke tenet. xvii. d. habenda et tenenda de nob. libe et honorifice omnibus diebus vite  
 sue p. iii. marc. ad maius pondus singulis annis ad nativitate sancti iohannis bapt. reddend. Et iohannes  
 raur quod redditum predictum non alienabit pro posse suo ab ecclesia nostra. Et si forte dominus abbas ut  
 eius numerus in angliam processu venire procurabit eum predictus iohannes pro duos dies. et quod in ibidem  
 predictum. iii. predictum. marc. mox tunc ad sumptum prenomina iohannis erit. non in iohannis present  
 fuerit. procurator suus de censu respondebit. Et autem hec concessio et donatio nostra rata habea  
 tur illa sigillorum nostrorum auctoritate confirmavimus et corroboravimus. his testibus. anno bal  
 duno pore. Remigio. Nichol. hugone obtinuit. Symone per. Iohes. Alelmo monachum.  
 etiam capto eide ecclesie. etiam gulleter. Gualdo et lauregioru. et tunc preb. et et dico.  
 Guallo nep. d. abbas. Guallo. fit. ylabel. Alulfo. fit. trom. Guallo sene. Iohes filio Roberti. Gal  
 frido blondo. Lullab. incerio. Rogo clero. ymte salu.



APPOINTMENT FOR LIFE BY ROBERT, ABBOT  
 OF ST. SALVUS AND ST. GUINIVALS OF  
 MONTEBAIL, AND THE CONVENT THEREOF,  
 TO JOHN DE ST. LAWRENCE, CLERK, TO THE  
 CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE IN LONDON.  
 A.D. 1182-1201.



To have and to hold freely and honourably all the days of his life for 4 marks of the greater weight to be rendered by him every year at the nativity of St. John Baptist. And John swears that he will not alienate the said rent from our Church. And if, indeed, the Lord Abbot, or his commissioner in England, shall come for an audit, the said John will entertain him at his own expense for two days and as long as he shall be delayed there by non-payment of the aforesaid 4 marks, and if he be absent his proctor shall answer for him. The deed is witnessed by sir Baldwin the prior, Remigius, Nicholas, Hugo de Bernivul, Symon Peter, John, and Alelm, monks, and all the chapter of the same Church, and also by master Gilbert, by Girold and red Lawrence and Fulco, presbiters, by Peter the clerk, William nephew of the Abbot, William the son of Ysabel, Alnlf the son of Fromundus, old William, John son of Robert, Galford Blond (? Geoffrey the fair), Eustace the mercer, Roger the clerk, and many others.

There is, also, a reference to this Monastery of Saint Sauve de Montreuil<sup>1</sup> to be found among the important series of Letters from Royal Personages, at one time preserved in the Tower of London. It has been printed at length in the first volume of M. Champollion-Figeac's collections<sup>2</sup> of such matters published in Paris in 1839. The letter is No. 255, and dated 14th October, 1285, and is thus mentioned:—"Par laquelle le roi Edouard I et la reine Eleonore d'Angleterre donnent à perpetuite et en pure aumône à l'abbé, au convent et à l'Eglise de Saint Sauve de Montreuil a Viconté dudit lieu, réserve faite de la justice souveraine (Rot. Vascon, Tour de Londres, ann. 13. Ed. I, membr. 1 dorso—Brég. t. 1)." See also "Un Ancien Inventaire des Titres de Montreuil Sur Mer," par A. de Marsy. The earliest document referred to as connected with the Abbey is given in this paper, under the date A.D. 1111, from which period are others described as ranging to the 16th century.

There is a quaintness about the contents of the old records which has an interest apart from the history of the locality. It is curious to reflect upon the names of the individuals mentioned; for example: who was "Old William," or the "heirs of Peter"? and who were "Gilbert the Tailor" and "Philip the Saddler"—who, in the exercise of their respective crafts, provided for the rental due from them to the monks across the sea at Montreuil? The names of some of them appear again, and of their descendants, in the various documents which, reciting the above, make up the series of title deeds recently carefully arranged and tabulated by the College authorities. From an exhaustive

<sup>1</sup> The Abbey of Saint Sauve de Montreuil (sur mer) is referred to in the large folio history, "*Gallia Christiania*," vol. x, under the heading *Provincia Rhemensis Diocesis Ambianensis* (Amiens), and a brief history of the establishment is there given, together with a list of the various abbots. The Robert, who is probably to be associated with our manuscript, appears in this list, but between the years A.D. 1182-1201, a date somewhat later than is warranted by the appearance of the deed. Attached to it are two fine seals in good preservation. Three are known in connection with the history of the house, and have been fully described by M. Douët d'Arq, entitled "*Inventaire des Sceaux de France*." They are referred to as follows, and the legend around them agrees in all essential particulars with that which appears upon the common seal attached to the Oxford document.

8305. (First Seal.) Saint Sauve de Montreuil, Diocese d'Amiens (1224), Frag' de Sceau Ogival, de 75 mill.—Arch. de l'Emp. J. 346, No. 5. Un personnage en costume d'évêque, assis, vu de face et tenant un livre . . . . TERIOLO.

Appendu à une demande de confirmation d'Abbé. Aout, 1224.

8306. Second Seal. Sceau Ogival, de 75 mill.—Arch. de l. Emp. J. 287, No. 95. C'est le même sceau mais ici la legende est presque complète. SIGILL. SCI. SALV. . . . I DE MONSTERIOLO. Sigillum Sancti Salvatori de Monsteriolo.

Appendu à un accord entre Jean Abbé de Saint Salve de Monsteroil sur la mer, et Edouard I.—Roi d'Angleterre, touchant la haute justice des terres de l'Abbaye, 1286.

From "*Inventaires et Documents*," &c. "Collection de Sceaux," par M. Douët D'Arq., tome iii, Paris, 1868.

<sup>2</sup> See "*Documents Inédits Sur L'Hist. de France*," by Champollion-Figeac, vol. i.



survey of these, we gather that it was in the year A.D. 1295 that the advowson of the Church fell into the hands of the College. To this circumstance a brief reference has been already made. The College possesses a License in Mortmain from King Edward I to Hugh de Vienne for granting the advowson of the Church of St. Laurence Jewry to the Warden of the "House of the Scholars of Balliol." To this document is attached the Royal Seal. A few years previous to this, the living, with house, gardens, and appurtenances, had been granted by Sir Hugh de Wykhambroke, Canon of the Church of St. Martin-le-Grand, to Master Henry le Affeyte, Clerk, for his life. This occurred in the year 1287, and in the grant there appears a highly interesting paragraph descriptive of the properties and their immediate relation to Guildhall.<sup>1</sup> The document is printed at length in the Appendix, but the following extract is sufficient to identify the site and buildings which were held by the Church in the 13th century and passed into the hands of the Corporation of London about the year 1792: "*totam domum illam cum gardino et pertinentiis quam habet, in parochia Sancti Laurentii in Iudessimo Londoniis inter Cimiterium ejusdem Ecclesie ex parte Australi et Gyhallam Londoniarum ex parte Aquilonari, et tenementum prædicti Domini Hugonis versus Orientem et tenementum quod quondam fuit Isabellæ Bokerel versus Occidentum.*"

Again, there is at the College a Latin deed on parchment which, after reciting the above particulars, refers to four houses and rents and the advowson of the Church, which had been had of the gift and grant of Master Hugh de Wykambroke, the houses being near the graveyard of the said Church between the house of Stephen Asway<sup>2</sup> on the west, and the courtyard of the Guildhall on the east. Also, twenty shillings of yearly rent, namely, from the house of Martin the Arbalester in Milk Street, 4 shillings; from the tenement there of Master Edmund le Poter, 8 shillings; from the tenement held by the said Martin in Catte Street, opposite the Church of St. Laurence, 4 shillings; and from that of Adam de Horsham opposite the Church, 4 shillings. He acknowledges the receipt of 100 marks from them in "gersummam" by way of fine. Witnesses: Sir John Breton, Knt., then Custos or Warden of the City of London, Martin de Aumbrisbere, and Robert de Rokeslee, Sheriffs, Stephen Aswy, John de Bankwell, John de Byterlee, Peter de Northwick, Adam de Horsham, Walter Bloundel, Robert de Colbroke, John de Pessemere, John at Church, and others.<sup>3</sup> Of the individuals above mentioned, Stephen Aswy, or Asshewy, was Alderman of the Ward of Cheap, and from this document we hear of his residence, and that only four houses separated him from the court-yard of the Guildhall. He appears to be the first of the Aldermen who was directly associated with the Ward; the first mention of his name in connection with the office occurring in the year 1273<sup>4</sup> at a time when the rights and privileges of the City had been seized by the crown,

<sup>1</sup> Record of these changes also appear in the Hustings Rolls under the various years as above, in one of the descriptions of the Soke.—*Sokam Sei Winwalth* would appear to have originated the name of Windmill Court. There was in the olden time a hostelry bearing the sign of the "Windmill" closely adjacent to the Church of St. Laurence.

<sup>2</sup> The seal to this deed, though originally an inferior impression, is in good preservation, and hangs by a silken cord.

<sup>3</sup> "Historical MSS. Commission," part iv, 1874, p. 449.

<sup>4</sup> Sir Stephen is recorded as having transferred house property in the parish of St. Laurence Jewry to John de Oxenforde, vintner, in the year 1322. *Vide* "Hustings Rolls," No. 51, Deed No. 135; also No. 56, Memb. 4, Deed No. 35, transfer of land by the same owner in the year 1327; and again, No. 78, Memb. 23, Deed No. 200, quit claim of shops in parishes of St. Mary Aldermanbury and St. Laurence, by Stephen, son of the above, 1349.

Edward the First had oppressed the citizens in various directions, and in usurping their liberties he had suspended the mayoralty. He next appointed a Custos or Warden, and this explains the designation under which the name of Sir John Breton, Knt., appears in the foregoing deed.<sup>1</sup> This appointment by the crown was to extend over a period of twelve years, and it was not until a large impost had been laid on the income of the citizens that their rights were restored. This occurred in 1297—viz., the 26th year of Edward's reign. Concerning Martin de Aumbrisbere, we know little. Robert de Rokesley was probably the son of the celebrated Gregory Rokesley, who served as Mayor in the year 1285.<sup>2</sup> He was a celebrated man in his day—a wool merchant and a wealthy goldsmith at the same time. He was also the chief assay master of the King's Mint, ambassador to Flanders, and an individual of a resolute and determined character. During his mayoralty he had refused to repair to John Kyrkby, the King's treasurer, afterwards Bishop of Ely, to render an account as to how the peace of the City had been kept. Offending the King, the office of Mayor was suspended, and Ralph de Sandwich appointed Warden. The same Gregory had previously been Mayor for no less than seven years consecutively, viz., from 1275 to 1281 inclusive. In the interval between this and his subsequent election in 1285 the office was filled by Henry Walleis. Rokesley resided in Milk Street in a house belonging to the priory of Lewes in Sussex, whereof he was tenant at will, paying twenty shillings by the year without other charge. Such were the rents of those times.

The property above spoken of as between the Churchyard and the Guildhall, with gardens, &c., can be no other than that which in later times was represented by the Estate held by the College on the west side of Guildhall Yard, for it appears from the records that, previous to the Great Fire of 1666, the College was seised of the estate which at this time was leased to Oliver Neve at ten pounds four shillings a year, under the usual custom of renewal. The whole of these buildings were destroyed by the conflagration.

An Act of Parliament was, however, passed in the 22nd year of Charles II, 1669–70, by which the Corporation were empowered to purchase within a limited time such ground as should be necessary for the ornament, enlargement and convenience of the Guildhall, and at the same time ensure its protection from fire. The Corporation thereupon purchased the freehold of the Vicarage House of Saint Laurence Jewry,<sup>3</sup> adjoining the College Estate, but instead of availing themselves of the power given by the Act of Parliament, they only

<sup>1</sup> In the list of Mayors given by the late Mr. Orridge in his "Citizens and Rulers," under the year 1294, the date of this MS., he mentions Ralph de Sandwich as Warden. This is inaccurate, unless we understand him to have served in conjunction with Sir John Breton, which he appears to have done on more than one occasion in preceding years.

<sup>2</sup> There is, however, some confusion in the various accounts which have appeared concerning this family. They held landed property in Kent, and Hasted, the historian of that county, in his reference to them, when describing the Manor of Foot's Cray, speaks of Roger de Rokesle as the son of Gregory, while in the descent of the Manor of North Cray, he represents Sir Richard de Rokesle as the son of Gregory, whereas, according to the Inquisition after death, Gregory died without issue, and his nephew, Roger de Rislepe, son of his sister Agnes, became his heir. This Roger was, in all probability, styled Roger de Rokesle from the place of his residence and heirship.—See "Archæologia Cantiana," vol. ii, p. 234.

<sup>3</sup> In the Hustings Rolls, No. 125, Memb. 23, dors., Deed No. 104, and under date 20 Richard II, A.D. 1397, Hamond Askham, Master, and the Scholars of Balliol Hall, Oxford, assign to Robert Wombwell, Vicar of St. Laurence Jewry, Messuage and garden in the Parish "for a Manse."

took at the time an assignment of the College Lease to Neve, and from time to time renewed the same upon fines which, on the average, never amounted to nine pounds a year to the College, but the premises being intermixed with the freehold of the Corporation, and the boundaries not very clearly ascertained, the description was continued as set forth in the old Lease to Neve. Although, with some years still unexpired, it was thought desirable, owing to the ruinous conditions of the buildings, and the consequent necessity for pulling down and rebuilding, that brick or stone buildings should be erected, suitable to the requirements of public business. The Corporation accordingly applied to the College, and it was ultimately agreed that it should have a perpetuity in the premises if an Act of Parliament could be obtained for the purpose, they paying a rental at the time of £10. 4s. a year for the remainder of their term, and afterwards a perpetual corn rent of sixty-two quarters and four bushels of wheat, which, at the average price of that time, was seven shillings a bushel. The arrangement met with the approval of the College authorities, on the ground that it would be beneficial to their successors; and with the Corporation, on the ground that it was making a liberal allowance to the Church, by improving the estate for the accommodation of the public and in accordance with the powers given to its predecessors in 1670, but which, from the general confusion and trouble which existed at the time, it did not effectually execute. In the Lease to which reference has been made, the site has been described as the Toft Ground. Soil and messuages and buildings thereon, erected and built, which had been let to Oliver Neve by name of "Mansion House." "Messuage or Tenement called the Parsonage House" in St. Laurence in the Old Jewry, within the City of London and being on the north side of the Church with the garden, well, yards, lights, cellars, chambers, &c., also their two other houses which adjoined the said Parsonage, and which are spoken of in another portion of the Agreement as "*near the Guildhall of the City of London.*"<sup>1</sup>

One of the earliest references to the Hall under its present name is that which occurs in the regulations that were made for the protection of the City and its buildings after the serious fire which occurred in July, 1212. This calamity aroused the Londoners to a sense of the risk and danger by which they were surrounded, for Old London Bridge, then a wooden structure, had been destroyed, and likewise several houses and other bridges. In the meeting which was convened, many decrees and ordinances were agreed upon, and among them appears the following, which gives us a reference to Guildhall in the reign of King John:—"That all ale-houses be forbidden, except those which shall be licensed by the Common Council of the City at Guildhall, excepting those belonging to persons willing to build of stone, that the City may be secure. And that no baker bake, or ale-wife brew<sup>2</sup> by night, either with reeds or straw or stubble, but with wood only. They advise also that all the cook-shops on the Thames be whitewashed and plastered within and without, and that all inner chambers and hostleries be wholly removed, so that there may remain only the house (domus)<sup>3</sup> and bedroom." It is in this Assize that we get an early mention of the

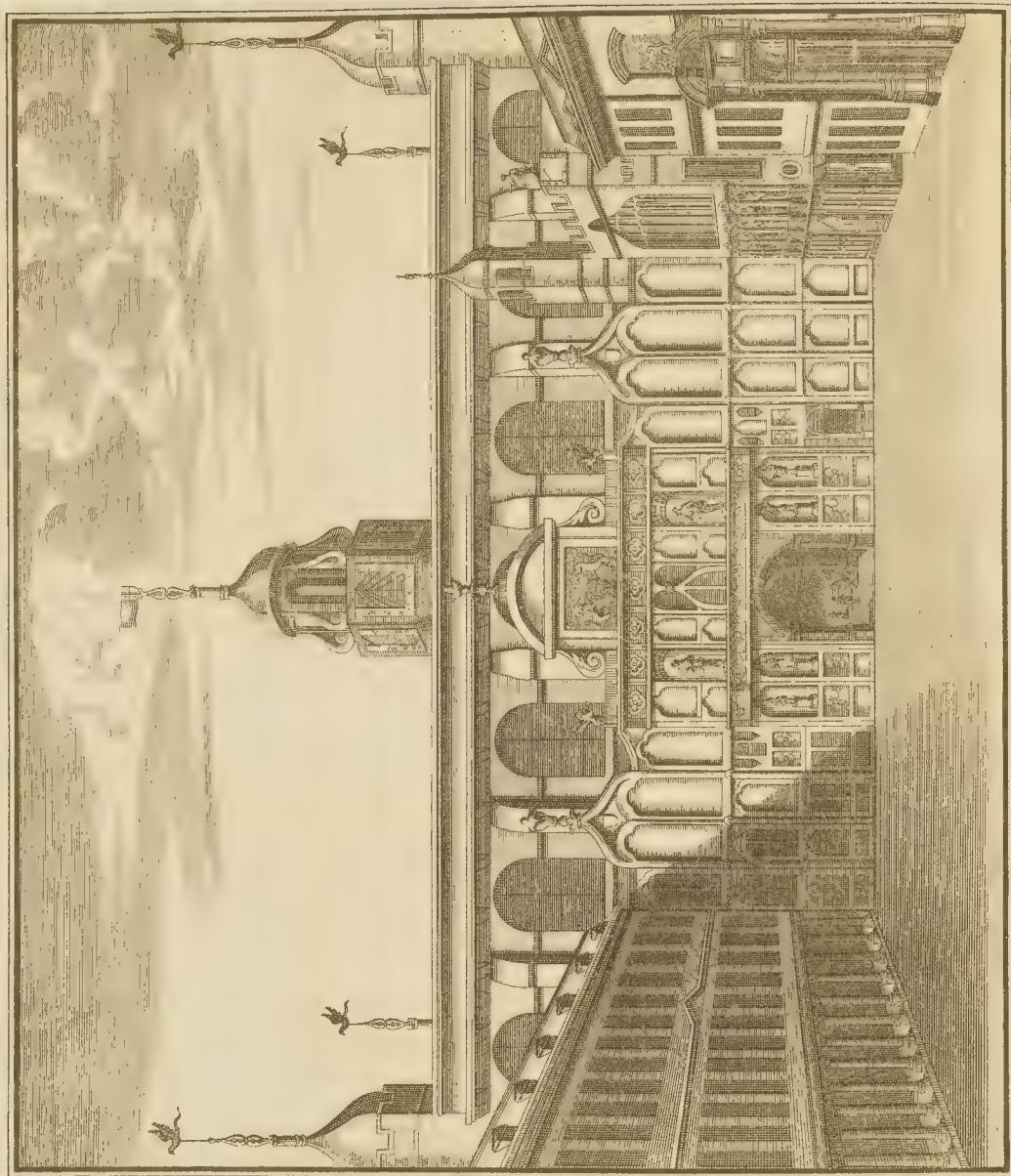
<sup>1</sup> The Draft Agreement is dated 6th February, 1792.

<sup>2</sup> In London, and other parts of the country, brewing was generally managed by women till a comparatively late time. In the 15th century, Fleet Street was chiefly occupied by ale-wives and felt cap-makers.

<sup>3</sup> In this passage, *house* appears to mean the large hall or apartment in which the family or customers assembled. In farm-houses in the North of England the kitchen, where the family and servants used formerly to sit, was called the *house-place*. Vide the Colloquy of Erasmus, entitled "*Diversoria*," quoted by T. Hudson Turner in his "*Domestic Architecture of England from the Conquest to the End of the Thirteenth Century.*" Oxford, 1851, p. 23.







Prospect of GUILD-HALL.

VUE DE L'HÔTEL DE VILLE À LONDRES

buildings then standing in Cheap. Some of these are shown to have been of stone, as there were special provisions made for their protection. For example: "All wooden houses, which are nearest to the stone-houses in Cheap whereby the stone-houses in Cheap may be in peril, shall be securely amended by view of the Mayor and Sheriffs, and good men of the City, or, without any exception, to whomsoever they may belong, pulled down."

In one of the Hustings Rolls, preserved at Guildhall, is to be found perhaps the first notice, as yet discovered, possessed by the Corporation in connection with the building. These records are among the most interesting of their literary treasures, for the Deeds commence with the year 1252, in the reign of King Henry III, and have retained an unbroken succession up to the present time. The Court of Hustings is one of the most ancient of our civic institutions. It can certainly be traced back to the legal administration, customary with the Anglo-Saxons. It is mentioned before the Conquest, in a deed quoted by Mr. Kemble,<sup>1</sup> from the Will of Ælſelgyfu (*comitissa*) in which she bequeaths "*duos cyphos argenteos de xii marcis ad pondus hustingie Londoniensis at serviendum fratribus in refectorio*" *i.e.*, of the monastery of Ramsey. We know also that in the Charter of Henry I to the citizens, he recognises the previous existence of this ancient Court. It was the highest tribunal before which complaints or actions in connection with civil or domestic matters could be brought. Mr. Coote<sup>2</sup> has remarked that it is in London alone that the ancient name has been preserved, "husting" he says means "husſing," *viz.*, the "domestic judicatory," and that pleas of the Crown, and all actions above the limit went to the County and its Judges for determination. The Judges entitled to preside over the proceedings are the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, and the business from time immemorial has been and still is conducted on the dais or raised platform at the eastern end of the Hall, such an elevation being common to most of the ancient Halls. Its position and its uses attracted the attention of the poet Chaucer, who, in speaking of the tradesmen and members of the civic guilds in their livery gowns, as being fit for the position of Aldermen, says:—

Guildhall.

"Wel seemed eche of hem a fayre burgeis,  
To sitten in a Gild Halle on the deis."

It must have been before a "fayre burgeis" of the poet's day, that the action was brought which gives us the earliest mention of Guildhall, as recorded in the Hustings Rolls. It is one which relates to a transfer of property from one Mabel de Sutton to Albinus, Baker and Citizen of London, such being a quit claim of land, houses, &c., in the parish of St. Dunstan-in-the-West, which she had claimed at Guildhall as Dower.<sup>3</sup> The record is dated in the year 1269, in the 53 Henry III. In the year 1284, in the mayoralty of Henry Walleis, we again have a reference to the building, which connects one of the officials associated with it at the time with an affair of a somewhat romantic character. The story is but partially told by Stow, who was evidently but little acquainted with the full particulars, upon which some further light is cast by the following entry which appears in one of the documents at the Public Record Office, and it is one that, I venture to think, has not been hitherto published.

<sup>1</sup> Kemble, *Cod. Dip.*, p. 804.

<sup>2</sup> "Romans of Britain" by the late H. C. Coote, F.S.A., p. 363.

<sup>3</sup> For details respecting Writs of Dower, Writs of Gavelet, Writs of Waste, and the matters in connection with the Hustings of Common Pleas—See "Liber Albus," Mr. Riley's translation, 1861, p. 164 and seq.

Ralph Creppin or Crepyn was M.P. for the City of London, and at the time referred to, was, it appears, Clerk to the Mayor, and he seems to have made use of the opportunities afforded him in a somewhat loose and unscrupulous manner. The extract is as follows:—"The Jurors say that Ralph Creppin, Clerk of the Mayor, by the power of his office, makes himself a party in many Writs of the King pleaded in the City, to receive gain so maliciously that many are aggrieved. Alice, daughter of Richard de Chelmeresford, claimed a tenement in which the said Ralph was a party. At length, when he saw that he would lose his case, he promised her six marks if she would remit her plea and give him two parts of that tenement and retain for herself the third, and thus fraudulently entered into that tenement, and never paid anything of the six marks. They say, moreover, that the said Clerk received forty shillings of Roger Bruning, in order that he should be party in a certain Writ pleaded in the Gilhale, and so from them and others whose names they do not know, by the power of his office extorted a large sum of money." This above-named Alice, it appears, was Alice atte Bowe,<sup>1</sup> doubtless so named from her residence being near to the Church of St. Mary-le-Bowe, in Cheap. She was mistress to Ralph Creppin, and although she received such bad treatment from this civic official, she was indisposed to stand by and quietly acquiesce in the misfortune which subsequently befel him. Ralph had managed to have a quarrel with one Laurence Duket, whether in connection with the above-mentioned transaction or not, does not very clearly transpire, but it ended in Ralph getting badly wounded, and Duket for safety concealing himself in the adjoining Church. Alice, in indignation at the event, assembled her acquaintances, and contrived to ensure a gang of murderers an entrance to the sacred building, where, according to the record, they at night "slewe the sayd Lawrence lienge in the steple." In order to escape detection, they fastened the unhappy man to one of the mullions of the windows in the Church, and even the coroner's jury at the inquest on the following day were so deceived that they recorded the case as one of suicide. It happened, however, that there was a boy on the evening in question, who had been concealed in the Church. He was a companion of the unfortunate Laurence, and had witnessed the whole transaction. He gave information, the murderers were apprehended, and from the record we gather that no less than sixteen individuals were hanged, and that Alice atte Bowe was burnt alive. Ralph, Clerk at Guildhall, was sent to prison in the Tower, where he for some time remained in company with the Sheriff and two other Clerks, who were connected with this tragic business. They were subsequently released on payment of certain fines, in other words, "hanged by the purse."

There is a brief record in the French Chronicle of London, issued by the Camden Society, which includes the names of some of the persons implicated.<sup>2</sup> Under the heading of the 12th year of Edward I. "En mesme l'an pur le mort Laurence Duket, qe fut pendu en le esglise Nostre Dame des Arches furent vii treinez et penduz, c'est a savoir, Renaud de Lanfar, Robert Pinnot, Poul de Stybbenheth, Thomas Coroner, Johan de Tholosane, Thomas Russel, et Robert Scot, et une femme Alice atte Bowe, estaoit ars pur mesme le fet; et Rauf Crepyn, Jordan Godchep, Gilbert le Clerk, et Geoffrey le Clerk, furent atteintz de la felonye, et remistrent prisons en la tour." Some five years later another

<sup>1</sup> British Museum, MS. Addit. 5,444, f. 95.—See also Harleian MSS. 538, f. 13.

<sup>2</sup> "Chroniques de London." Edited by G. J. Aungier, for the Camden Society. 1844, p. 19.





FROM THE ORIGINAL ENGRAVING IN THE COLLECTION OF J. N. GARDNER, ESQ., F.R.S.

*Painted according to an old Picture 1735, for John, Survey*





singular event is recorded in connection with the first Guildhall, and that is one relating to a theft of certain silver dishes belonging to one Baroncein,<sup>1</sup> a wealthy merchant of Lucca. He was a money lender, and it is said that at one time he advanced large sums to Edward II, when Prince of Wales.<sup>2</sup> It appears that in the year 1289, 17 Edward I, and on the 23rd April, one Walter Bacun, a priest or chaplain had fled for safety to the Church of St. Paul's in London, and in consequence William le Mazeliner, then Coroner, together with John le Breton, then Warden, the said Baroncein, John de Banquelle, and others assembled and demanded of Walter Bacun what was the reason why he remained in the Church, whereupon he acknowledged that he was a thief, and had stolen sixteen silver dishes that belonged to Sir Baroncein; and upon this acknowledgment the said dishes were delivered by the Coroner to William de Betoynne, then Sheriff, to be kept by him under Sir Baroncein's seal. And on the Wednesday next after the feast of St. Mark the Evangelist, 25th April, the said dishes by command of our Lord the King, were opened out in the Guildhall and delivered by the said Sheriff to the Coroner before-named, whereupon the said William le Mazeliner, the Coroner, delivered the aforesaid sixteen dishes to the said Baroncein, in presence of the said Warden, John de Banquelle, and other trustworthy persons there present.

In the year 1285 there was a transfer from the Corporation of certain property in the Parishes of St. Michael Bassishaw and St. Laurence Jewry to Sir John de Banquelle, whose residence adjoined the Hall. Although the transaction occurred in the year mentioned, the deed was not enrolled until the 18 Edward I, viz., in 1289. It appears in the *Hustings Rolls*,<sup>3</sup> under the latter date, and a few years after is found in the same series of records a further reference to the property in this district which was transferred to Sir John, and which doubtless in later times was connected with the site of Blackwell Hall. The entry is as follows:

Monday next before the Feast of St. Martin, 21 Edw. I, in full hustings, was read this charter:—Grant by Henry le Galeys, Robert de Basinge, Stephen Aswy, Ralph le Blound, Robert de Rokesle, William de Hereford, William le Mazelin, William de Betoynne, Richard Aswy, John de Gisors, John le Blound, Adam de Foleham, Walter de Finchlingfeld, Thomas de Stanes, John de Cantuar', Martin Box, Nicholas de Farndon, Thomas Cros, Adam de Rokesle, Elias Russel, Henry le Bele, and John de Dunstaple, Citizens and Aldermen of London, in the presence of John le Breton, Keeper of the City aforesaid,

to  
JOHN DE BANQUELL, "our fellow citizen," his heirs and assigns for ever,  
of

All that tenement with its appooints which they had from the gift and grant of Sir Roger de Clifford Knight the Elder, except a certain chamber and a certain garden to the same adjoining, which they had previously sold to Aaron, Son of Vines the Jew, which tenement is situated near the "Gyhald," of the aforesaid City, in the Parish of St. Michael "de Bassieshawe," between the tenement of the aforesaid John de Banquell' on the south, and the tenement of the same John on the north, and between the highway of "Bassieshawe" on the east, and the land of the commonalty aforesaid next the aforesaid "Gyhall" on the west.

Dated, London, Tuesday next before the Feast of S. Botolph, 21 Edw. I. 1292.

The afore-mentioned entries, which could readily be multiplied, if necessary, are sufficient to illustrate the existence of a Guildhall in the 13th century, and to show that to

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book A, fol. 1.

<sup>2</sup> See Dr. Doran's "Princes of Wales," p. 84, also "Memorials of London Life," by H. T. Riley, M.A., p. 25, who remarks that the prisoner himself would either obtain benefit of Clergy, or having escaped to Sanctuary, be allowed to abjure the realm.

<sup>3</sup> *Hustings Rolls*, No. 19, m 55.

Guildhall,  
A.D. 1326.

all intents and purposes the uses to which the early building were devoted have remained unchanged to the present day ; and further, they go to prove that the site of the Hall is in close association with that upon which the first one stood. The recent investigations of the Records have not discovered any earlier references to the building other than those mentioned. It is possible that some may exist, if not in the City archives. Such would probably be found in some of the early documents at St. Paul's. The present references, however, taken in connection with those quoted from the deeds preserved at Balliol College, Oxford, prove conclusively that, while the Hall has passed through sundry transitions, been altered, added to, and enlarged from time to time, no evidence is forthcoming to show that the Guildhall of ancient times was ever situated in any other part of London than that where it at present stands. An enlargement of the ancient building appears to have taken place in the year 1326, 20th King Edward II, and in the mayoralty of Richard de Breton, Britaine, or Betoynes. At this time a grant of timber and lead appears to have been made towards the works at the Hall and Chapel ; and in 1337, 2 Edward III, it is recorded that on the 25th January of that year, and in the time of Thomas de Maryns, Chamberlain, 76 pieces of timber, then in the Guildhall, were removed and laid in the lesser garden of the same Guildhall, and placed under the wall there to the chamber of the late John de Bankewell adjoining. Of which timber 42 pieces were afterwards used in the repair of the Gate of Crepelgate, by Richard de Berkyng, Alderman, and Thomas de Maryns, Chamberlain. The same day and year, there were taken into the cellar of the said Guildhall 24 stones unwrought—and many other stones that were wrought, which were in the said garden, in the lodge there, were removed to the said cellar.<sup>1</sup> It may be observed that the word "cellar," which appears here, refers to what we may understand as the Crypt, the actual site being in all probability under the western end of the present Hall, the word *logde* or *logia*, implying the presence in the locality of a garden or summer-house. The foregoing evidently relates to some extensive alterations and repairs in progress at the Hall at about this period, for we have a record to the effect that the Thomas de Maryns referred to was rewarded for "his pains and diligence about the repairs of the Guildhall in the years 1341–3."<sup>2</sup>

Enlargement  
of the Hall,  
A.D. 1411.

Early in the 15th century, the necessities of the time led to an enlargement of the Hall. The citizens were gradually recovering from the exactions imposed upon them during the preceding reigns. The extortionate demands of Richard II on the people had been complied with, and the general disloyalty to the crown which they had created was gradually disappearing. The Londoners became supporters of Henry of Lancaster when, under the title of Henry IV, he ascended the throne in 1399. Some seven years later, in the third year of the mayoralty of Richard Whittington, the City was visited both by plague and pestilence. In this visitation some thirty thousand persons are said to have died. A few years sufficed, however, for the inhabitants to recover from the effects which it had produced. Commerce began to improve at home, the trade with foreign countries continued to increase, and the City became once again prosperous and wealthy. The incorporation and gradual development of the Livery Companies gave them a power and influence which they had not previously possessed, and ensured them recognition and respect. Improvement

<sup>1</sup> Letter-Book E, fol. 253.

<sup>2</sup> Letter-Book F, fol. 73 (Latin).

was pending in each direction. The old Guildhall was found to be inadequate to the accommodation required, and consequently in the year 1411, in the mayoralty of Thomas Knowles,<sup>1</sup> a new building was commenced. This was an event of so much moment that it finds early mention in the quaint old "Chronicles" of Robert Fabyan, Alderman of Farringdon Without, and Sheriff in 1493. In his interesting record of the principal events connected with the history of the City,<sup>2</sup> there appears the following entry:—

1411. "In this yere, a squyer of Walys named Rize ap Dee ye whiche had longe tyme rebellyd agayne the kyng and fortyfyed the partie of Howan of Glendore was taken and brought to London, and there vpon the ix daye of Decembre, drawen, hanged and quarteryd and his hede set vpon the brydge amonge the others. In this yere also was ye Guylde halle of Lodon begon to be newe edyfied, and of an olde and lytell cotage made into a fayre and goodly house as it nowe apperyth."

The period selected for the erection of this "fayre and goodly house" was one highly favourable to the practice of the architectural profession. The design, moreover, was in perfect harmony with the taste and fashion of a time which may fittingly be referred to as the Augustan age of mediæval art. The fifteenth century represents a period when the Gothic school had attained a popular and a high position. The decorated style had been gradually passing through the transition, and was culminating in the more natural beauty of the perpendicular, a style at once identified by its harmonious proportions and its delicate blendings of effective ornament. The use of battlements upon churches and other buildings, flower and fan tracery, so constantly to be seen on both porch and cloister, fine open timber roofs, cornices and canopies enriched and elegant, together with a highly-tasteful treatment in the disposition of panelling upon walls and ceilings, are all so many illustrations of beautiful and artistic features which, fully established at or about this time, were continued more or less until the middle of the sixteenth century. Then (and, indeed, for some years previously) they, by degrees, lost the purity of taste which in the

<sup>1</sup> In the Church of St. Antholin's there was formerly a monument to Thomas Knowles, who was twice elected to the mayoralty 1399 and 1410, and was closely associated with the rebuilding of the Hall. The inscription upon the tomb is preserved by Weever, in his "Funeral Monuments," edit. 1631, p. 402, and reads as follows:—

Here lyth grauyn vndyr this ston  
Thomas Knowles both flesh and bon  
Grocer and Alderman yeres fortye  
Sheriff and twis Maior truly :  
And for he shold not ly alone  
Here lyth wyth him his good wyff Ione  
They weren togeder sixty yere ;  
And nineteen chyldren they had in feer  
Now ben they gon wee them miss :  
Christ haue ther sowlys to heuen bliss Amen  
Ob. Ann. 14 . . . .

In addition to the connection which, together with the Aldermen, he had with the rebuilding of the Hall, he re-edified the Church of St. Antholin's at his own cost ; he gave to the Grocers' Company his house in the Parish of St. Antholin's. (Herbert's "History of the Livery Companies," vol. i, p. 331.) He was the ancestor of Lord Knowles, 1603, who was created first Viscount Wallingford and Earl of Banbury, 1626.

<sup>2</sup> Fabyan's "Chronicles" edit. 1811, p. 576.



best days they had possessed and gradually declined, the old Gothic forms becoming mixed and associated with those of Italian introduction. It is to the time when the perpendicular was in the ascendant that many of the best of our churches, halls, and colleges are to be attributed. In addition to the Guildhall of London, we have Crosby Hall, one of the most perfect examples of its kind, and one which likewise provides an illustration of the nature of the many City mansions which were at this period erected by the wealthy merchants of the day. St. Mary's Hall at Coventry, now the Town Hall, but originally the Hall of St. Mary's, is an illustration of the private mansions which were erected by the wealthy civic magnates of mediæval times, for at this period of our history the opulent merchant princes of the City vied with the nobility and country gentry of the day in the magnificence with which their residential homes were both designed and built. The fine hall at Penshurst in Kent, that of South Wingfield Manor House in Derbyshire, with many others, all point to the general activity which prevailed, and likewise to the numerous attractions which were presented by the Gothic style. It was at this period that the more wealthy and important of the City Companies began to erect for their respective Guilds a separate hall, as distinct from the more pretentious building which was to be devoted to the general interests and requirements of the City. Some of these buildings—for example, that belonging to the Mercers' Company—may be identified on some of the views of London, taken previous to the Fire of 1663. Carpenters' Hall was erected about the time referred to. It was one of the few that escaped destruction, the conflagration, fortunately for it, becoming checked just at the time when the Hall was surrounded by the approaching danger. In Agas' map, circa 1560, there is a rough but characteristic view of Mercers' Hall, and making due allowance for the manner in which the sketch was taken, the building with its louvre, its buttresses, and its high pitched roof, presents many resemblances to that of the Guildhall, and serves to illustrate the fact of both structures belonging to one and the same period.

Stow, in his reference to the re-building, or, rather, extension of the Hall, remarks that it was begun to be built new in the year 1411, the 12th Henry IV, by Thomas Knoles, then Mayor, and his brethren the Aldermen, "and, further, that towards the charges whereof the Companies gave large benevolences; also, offences of men were pardoned for sums of money towards this work, extraordinary fees were raised, fines, amercements, and other things employed during seven years, with a continuation thereof three years more all to be employed to this building."<sup>1</sup>

It would seem that shortly after the work had been commenced the citizens began to discover both the magnitude and expense of the task undertaken by them, for extraordinary exertions were being constantly made in order to raise funds to provide for the necessities of the works, which, as it will be seen, were proceeded with but slowly, and extended over a period of many years. There are preserved in the Corporation records numerous entries which refer in detail to the various contributions in the way of sums bequeathed, the levying of fines and fees with grants from the Livery Companies, and the matters which are but briefly and lightly passed over in the above extract from Stow. The earliest reference in this direction is to be found in one of the Letter Books, and it is

<sup>1</sup> Stow's "Survey," p. 102.

of interest as showing how soon it was discovered after the re-building had commenced that some unusual and active exertion would be necessary in order to ensure a satisfactory completion of the work, so that it might, when finished, be worthy of the Corporation. This extract, abbreviated, is as follows :—<sup>1</sup>

MARCH 14, 14 HENRY IV. 1412-13.

Whereas the new work of the Guildhall, which was begun and kept up by the pious alms and help of various citizens and others deceased, has ceased, to the manifest scandal and disgrace of that most noble City which has flourished beyond all other cities, and to find a remedy, it was provided by the Mayor William Woldern and the Aldermen, and many other of the more powerful and discreet Citizens, in their Common Council assembled in the Upper Chamber of this Guildhall, that certain articles following should be observed for six years following :—

First, that each apprentice, male and female, should pay at his entry, beyond the ancient fee of the Chamber, towards the new work aforesaid, 2s. 6d.

Also that each apprentice, male and female, at the end of his apprenticeship should pay, beyond the ancient fee, 8s. 4d.

Also that each freeman, by redemption, shall pay to the Chamberlain aforesaid such sum as shall be reasonably agreed between them, whereof one moiety is to be applied to the use of the new work aforesaid, and the other moiety to remain to the Chamber.

Also from each deed or charter inrolled, 8s. 4d. beyond the ancient fee.

Also from each will enrolled, 6s. 8d. sterling, at the least, beyond the ancient fee.

Also from each letter patent under the Seal of the Mayoralty, beyond the ancient fees of the clerk and esquire of the Mayor, 2 shillings.

Also from each letter close under the Seal of the Mayoralty, beyond the ancient fees, 12d.

Also that all fines and amercements of Brewers, Huksters, Hostillers, and Vitillars (Glaziers ?) breaking the Proclamation of the Mayor and Aldermen, shall be levied as before.

Also that all fines and amercements of the Mayor's Court shall be levied and remain towards the new work aforesaid during the six years aforesaid.

Also that each year, during the same time, there shall be levied 100 marks sterling towards the new work aforesaid out of the revenues of London Bridge.

Also that henceforth each year, during the same time, each Alderman, here present in Court, shall have the names of all those making default in their wardmotes, and from each one making default, 4d. shall be levied towards the new work aforesaid.

It will be noted that the above regulations were to stand in force for a term of six years, it probably being thought that such would be sufficient for the purpose required ; but it appears that when this time had expired, the order was renewed for three years more, for on the 27th March, 7 Henry V, 1418-19, it was agreed and ordained by William Sevenok, Mayor, and Aldermen, in full Common Council, that the issues, fines and fees aforesaid should be continued and levied towards the works in progress for the next three years.<sup>2</sup> Without quoting the numerous other references which relate to further renewals of the term, it is sufficient to note that in 1423<sup>3</sup> it was thought that an extension to the Christmas of that year would meet the difficulty ; but on the contrary, however, there are further orders in 1425,<sup>4</sup> 1427,<sup>5</sup> 1430,<sup>6</sup> 1439, &c., to a similar effect.

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book I, fol. 121, and "Memorials of London," p. 589.

<sup>2</sup> Journal 11, fol. 86.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., fol. 106b.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., fol. 121.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., fol. 53.

<sup>6</sup> Letter Book K, fol. 181b.

In addition to the contribution of these respective fines and charges, a portion of the tolls and fees which were collected in the City on goods imported from abroad was devoted to the same purpose. Scavage was a toll paid for the oversight by certain officials upon the "showing" or opening out of imported goods. Upon such merchandise it was the custom for the toll to be taken on behalf of his Lordship the King, and of the amount raised, one half went to the Sheriffs, and the other half to the hosts in whose houses the merchants were harboured, who bring the merchandise, "provided always that such hosts be of the Freedom of the City." The word *scavage* is defined in the *Liber Albus*<sup>1</sup> as meaning "*shewing*," because it behoves the merchants that they show unto the Sheriffs the merchandise for which the custom is to be taken, "before that any of it be sold." In the year 1419, 7 Henry V, the amount collected by the imposition of this toll was expressly devoted to the work then in progress at Guildhall, and in addition, we note from the entry that records the fact, that one "Thomas Pike doth grant towards the new work all that is in arrear to him concerning the scavage for three years." The entry is dated Saturday, 19th August, in the year before mentioned, and it briefly states that "The scavage of this year is to be converted or applied towards the new work of the Guihalde, together with all monies which they paid by consent or grant."<sup>2</sup>

Soon after the commencement of the new work it would seem that some application for assistance was made to the government of the day, for it is recorded that Henry V, in the year 1414 or 1415, viz., in the third year of his reign, granted to the City a free passage for four boats by water, and as many carts by land, with servants to each, to bring lime, ragstone, and freestone for the work of Guildhall, as appears by these Letters Patent.

"Rex omnibus ad quos, &c., salutem. Sciatis quod ad supplicationem dilectorum et fidelium nostrorum Majoris et Aldermannorum civitatis Londoni concessimus, quod ipsi habere possint quatuor Batellos per aquam et quatuor carectas per terram, cum dictis servientibus suis, viz., Iohannes Lovekyn, Stephano Charles, Waltero Alphey et Adamo Winter, servitoribus Batellorum predictor', ac Henrico Cok, Iohanne Freck, Iohanne Stevenes et Iohanne Davy, servitoribus predictar', carectarum, ad veniend', transeund', et redund', conjunctim vel divisim per aquam et per terram, ad petras vocatas Ragge, Calces, et Liberas Petras, pro operatione et Factura *Guyhalde* dict' Civitatis nostre ducend', &c."

These various contributions towards the erection of the new building were augmented by occasional presentations and bequests. For example, we find that in the year 1417, 5 Henry V, "John Walloxton, one of the executors of John Beamond, paid to the new work at the Guildhall sixty pounds out of the goods of the testator."<sup>3</sup> In 1422, 1 Henry VI, John Coventry and John Carpenter, executors of the celebrated Richard Whittington,<sup>4</sup> contributed towards "the paving of this great Hall twenty pounds, and the next year fifteen pounds more to the said pavement with hard stone of Purbeck; they also glazed some windows thereof and of the Mayor's Court, on every

<sup>1</sup> "Liber Albus," Mr. Riley's Translation, p. 196.

<sup>2</sup> Journal I, fol. 596.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., fol. 386.

<sup>4</sup> Quoted by Maitland in his "History of London," vol. ii, p. 888, also by Mr. J. B. Nichols in his "Brief Account of Guildhall" (1819) p. 8. Stow's "Survey," p. 102.



which window the Arms of Richard Whittington<sup>1</sup> are placed." There is no mention of this bequest in Whittington's Will any more than there is of many other grants which were made from the property left to the citizens by this distinguished man. He placed faith in his friends and executors, John Coventrie and John Carpenter, and it was left to their discretion to distribute such portions of his wealth as they thought well for the general advantage of those public works and benefactions in which he had displayed so much interest in his lifetime. In the illumination which is attached to the ordinances and rules of Whittington College, there appears a representation of the closing hours of Whittington's career. There is a semblance of reality about the drawing which invests it with every appearance of truth; and there is little doubt but that it is no other than a faithful representation of what actually occurred. In addition to a figure of the physician, a group of bedesmen with rosaries in their hands, and some few other individuals, there appear the figures of the executors, Carpenter and Coventrie, their identity being marked by their respective names, which are inscribed upon their dress. Although Carpenter was the chief executor, it is Coventrie who, at the bedside, appears in an attitude of listening attention to the last wishes and instructions of Sir Richard.<sup>2</sup> Among these it can

<sup>1</sup> In the chronicles of Richard Grafton, and quoting from the copy in the British Museum, dated 1569, we have the following interesting reference to the career of Richard Whittington and his association with the works and additions to Guildhall. Writing of the events connected with the reign of Henry IV, and more particularly of those belonging to the year 1406, the author says, "This yere a worthie citizen of Lūdon, named Rychard Whyttington Mercer and Alderman, was elected Maior of the sayde citie, and bare that office three tymes. This worshipfull man so bestowed his goodes and substance to the honor of God, to the reliefe of the pore and to the benefite of the cōmon weale that he hath right well deserved to be registered in the boke of fame. First he erected one house or Church in Lūdon to be a house of prayer, and he named the same after his awne name Whittington's Colledge, and so it remayneth to this day. And in the same Church, besyde certeine Priestes and Clerkes, he placed a number of poore aged men and women, and buylded for them houses and lodgynges, and allowed vnto them Wood, Cole, Cloth and weekly money to their great reliefe and comfort. This man also at his awne coste, buylded the gate of Lūdon called Newgate in the year of our Lord 1422 which before was a most vgly and lothsome prison. Also he buylded more than the halfe of St. Bartholomewes Hospitall in West Smithfelde in Lūdon. Also he buylded of hard stone the bewtiful librarie in the Gray Friars in London, now called Christes Hospitall standyng in the North part of the Cloyster there of where in the wall his armes is grauen in stone. He also buylded for the ease of the Maior of London and his brethren and of the Worshipfull Citizens at the solemne dayes of their assemblie a Chapell adjoining to the Guyldhall, to the entent that they should ever before they entered into any of theyr affayres, first to go into the Chapell and by prayer to call upon God for his assistaunce, And in the ende joynyng on the South part of the sayde Chapell he buylded for the Cittie a Library of Stone, for the custodie of their recordes and other boke. He also buylded a great part of the East ende of the Guyldhall beside many other goodes workes that I knowe not. But among all other, I will shewe vnto you one very notable, which I receyved credibly by a writing of his awne hande which also he willed to be fixed as a scedule to his last will and Testament, the contentes whereof was, that he willed and commanded his Executors as they would answer before God at the Ressurrection of all fleshe, that if they found any debtor of his that ought to him any money, that if he were not in their consciences well woorth three tymes as much and also out of the debt of other men, and well able to pay, that then they shoulde neuer demand it, for he cleerly forgaue it, and that they shuld put no man in sute for any debt due to hym. Looke (says our chronicler) upon thys ye Aldermen, for it is a glorious Glasse." \*

<sup>2</sup> There are among the figures which are standing round the bed of the dying citizen two other individuals of note, who were likewise executors, but do not appear to have ever assumed their position. John White, Clerk, was the first minister of the church of St. Michael, Paternoster, which was endowed by Whittington; of the other, William Grove, but little is known. John Coventrie was Sheriff of London in the year 1417, and Lord Mayor in 1425. He died on Easter Monday, 13th April, 1429, and was buried in Bow Church. John Carpenter, whose usefulness in life is well known, was at one time Member of Parliament and Town Clerk of the City of London, the compiler of "Liber Albus," and the founder of the City of London School.—*Vide* "The Model Merchant of the Middle Ages," by the Rev. Samuel Lysons, M.A., 1860, page 68, and seq.

\* Grafton "Chronicles," A.D. 1569, p. 434.



hardly be doubted that there were several in relation to the old Hall, in the enlargement of which he had evinced so much interest, and in which he had on many occasions so nobly figured. In his contributions towards the pavement and to the glazing of the windows, Whittington was not only rendering useful help, but setting an example to encourage others to assist in two of the most needed of the requirements necessary to the full completion and adornment of a Hall which was to hold its own as one of the most important of the City buildings. The distinct references which are made to "paving" and "glazing" would lead to the supposition that at this time neither of these respective works had been commenced, or, presuming that they were in progress, they were at any rate incomplete. Glass at this time was a somewhat expensive luxury. It was employed to some extent in churches and colleges, and in royal and public buildings of importance. Pavements also, even in churches at this time, were often absent, the floors being frequently of concrete or hardened clay, upon which, from time to time, fresh layers of straw or rushes would be laid. Sir Richard's association with the glazing of the windows of the Hall is commemorated in a play by Thomas Heywood, on the "Life and Reign of Queen Elizabeth," originally published in 1606. Among the scenes is one in which Dr. Nowell, Dean of St. Paul's, introduces a party of friends to his gallery of "Good Citizens," and amongst them is included Whittington, of whom he speaks as follows:—

"This Sir Richard Whittington, three time Mayor ;  
 Son to a knight and prentice to a mercer,  
 Began the library of Gray Friars in London,  
 And his executors after him did build  
 Whittington College, thirteen almshouses for poore men ;  
 Repaired St. Bartholomew's in Smithfield,  
 Glazed the Guildhall, and built Newgate."

Stow tells us, as already quoted, that on every window of the Mayor's Court the Arms of Whittington was placed, but he gives, unfortunately, but little information as to what the subjects were, which in painted glass, adorned the windows of the main building. He speaks of "divers Aldermen having glazed the Great Hall and other Courts as appeareth by their Arms in each window," and records the gift of William Hariot, Draper, Mayor, 1481 and 1511, towards the expenses. In his description of the liveries, &c., as worn by the citizens, there is a reference to one of the windows in the Mayor's Court which is interesting, as by it is preserved the account of one, at least, of the stained glass windows belonging to that building. After mentioning the portrait of Alderman Darby, preserved in his house at Fenchurch Street, he says, "for a further monument of those late times, men may behold the glass windows of the Mayor's Court in the Guildhall, above the stairs, the Mayor is there pictured sitting in habit, partly-coloured, and a hood on his head, his sword-bearer before him with a hat or cap of maintenance ; the common clerk and other officers bare headed, their hoods on their shoulders ; and, therefore, I take it that the use of square bonnets worn by noblemen, gentlemen, citizens and others took beginning in this realme by Henry VII, and in his time, and of further antiquity, I can see no counterfeit or other proof of its use."<sup>1</sup> From this we may gather that many of the subjects illustrated in the various windows were in keeping with the traditions and uses of the building. There is,

<sup>1</sup> Stow's "Survey," p. 199.

however, reason to think that among them were many of a religious character, for in the middle of the 17th century we find questions arising concerning them, and read of arrangements being made for their removal. In the year 1643<sup>1</sup> Parliament had ordained that all altars and tables of stone should be taken away, communion tables removed from the East end of the Church, their rails pulled down, and all candlesticks, tapers and basons standing upon them taken away; and all crucifixes, images or pictures of God and the saints, with all superstitious inscriptions, obliterated or otherwise destroyed. It was in the execution of this order that St. Paul's Cross, Charing Cross and that in Cheapside were levelled to the ground.<sup>2</sup> The injury and destruction which must at this period have been wrought upon some of the choicest specimens of mediæval art can hardly be imagined. Archbishop Laud describes how, on Monday, 1st May, 1643, "the windows of his Chappel, at Lambeth, were defaced, and the steps to the Communion Table torn up; and how on Tuesday, May 2nd, the Cross in Cheapside was taken down to cleanse that great street of superstition."<sup>3</sup> Paul's Cross, as mentioned, suffered a similar fate.<sup>4</sup> It is recorded in the City archives how, on the 16th May, 1643, a Court under the presidency of the Mayor, Sir Isaac Pennington, the regicide, a petition was presented from the parishioners of "faithes under Paule's Church" with respect to certain "stones, rubbish, pales and sheds," which are referred to as being a "trouble and a hindrance to the inhabitants." An order was given that Sir John Gayre, Knight and Alderman, together with Mr. Alderman Gibbs, should "consider of a convenient and fitt place within the said yard for a pulpit to stand in, and also of a convenient place for the Lord Maior and Aldermen to sitt in to heare the word of God preached as heretofore hath byn accustomed upon the Lord's Day."<sup>5</sup>

The Rev. W. Sparrow Simpson, D.D., F.S.A., Minor Canon of St. Paul's, in his interesting history of the Cathedral,<sup>6</sup> has advanced reasons for supposing that it was not so much the religious feeling of the time which led to the pulling down of the Cross, as it was an intention which appears to have existed that it should be rebuilt "fairer and bigger" when the Church was finished. The ground he gives for this is a quotation from a rare tract, entitled, *A Dialogue between the Crosse in Cheap and Charing Cross*, printed in 1641, which, as he says, casts considerable doubt on the generally received opinion. The two Crosses are referred to as holding a conversation in the following form:—

"*Char.* Paul's Cross, the most famous preaching place, is donne, and quite taken away.

"*Cheap.* It is true, but with an intent to be built fairer and bigger when the Church shall be finished."

Charing Cross was not removed until the year 1647, and a portion of the stone work of which it was composed was utilised when laying down a pavement in front of Whitehall. "I have seen," writes Lilly, "knife hafts made of some of the stones, which, being well polished, looked like marble."<sup>7</sup> The Cross was erected, as is well

<sup>1</sup> Vide "Proceedings of the Long Parliament," May 3, A.D. 1643.

<sup>2</sup> Eccleston's "English Antiquities," 1847, p. 348.

<sup>3</sup> "May 2, 1643," says that interesting diarist, John Evelyn, "I went to London, where I saw the furious and zealous people demolish that stately Cross in Cheapside."

<sup>4</sup> "Archbishop Laud's Troubles," &c. Edition, 1695, p. 203.

<sup>5</sup> Repertory 56. 1642-43.

<sup>6</sup> "History of Old St. Paul's," edit. 1881, p. 229.

<sup>7</sup> Lilly's "Observations on the Life, &c., of King Charles," 1715, p. 81.

known, in common with eight others, by Edward I, in memory of his much-loved and faithful Queen, Eleanor of Castile; and that an historic memorial commemorating so interesting an episode in our history should, in company with many others of a like nature, have been sacrificed to the bigotry and intolerance which at this time prevailed, not alone in the metropolis, but throughout the realm, cannot be too deeply regretted. It had been suffered to remain throughout many changes of opinion—social, religious, and political; its companion in Cheap had done the same; indeed, the Londoners had cherished these memorials, they had respected them, and they had been re-edified and decorated as the effects of time and necessity required. The same vindictive feeling—popular as it was at this particular time—which led to the destruction of many time-honoured monuments, extended itself to the Guildhall and its adjacent Chapel. The removal of the Cross in Cheap, “when a noyse of trumpets blew all the while, while the thing was adoin<sup>g</sup>,”<sup>1</sup> appears to have been only matched by the dissatisfaction of the populace with the subjects depicted on the painted windows of this magnificent Hall. At a meeting of the Court of Aldermen on the 5th October, 1642, it was thus decreed:—<sup>2</sup>

“ITEM.—This day upon a mo<sup>o</sup>on made unto this Court, It is ordered that the last and p<sup>re</sup>sent Sheriffs shall view what pictures are in the Windows of the Guildhall and Chappell that are Comanded by order of the Co<sup>o</sup>mmons house in Parliam<sup>t</sup> to bee pulled down, And Certify unto this Court what they find, and their opinions towching the same.”

At a succeeding meeting, an order is recorded to the effect, that a “Dr. Goodge and others shall view the pictures and figures in the glass windows within the Guildhall and Chappell belonging thereto, and what they shall find or consider to be superstitious and idolatrous the same to be pulled doune.”<sup>3</sup>

The official entry of the report presented by the Committee above referred is thus preserved among the civic archives, dated 1643, 27<sup>th</sup> April, Pennington, Maior. It is extracted at length as being an interesting record of the strange and virulent opinions of the time:

“Whereas by an order of the Lord Maio<sup>r</sup> and Court of Aldre<sup>n</sup> made the third of March, 1642, Wee whose names are vnderwritten were desired to view the Pictures and figures in the glasse windows w<sup>th</sup>in the Guildhall and the Chappell belonging thereunto, And (as wee conceaue) to report what wee finde to bee idolatrous or supsticions, In reference to the said order wee haueing mett together and diligently viewed the p<sup>re</sup>misses, doe finde that the aunient painted windowes doe retayne the pictures of the three p<sup>er</sup>sons in Trinity of Christ and the Virgin Mary in sefall formes, of the Prophets, Apostles p<sup>re</sup>tended w<sup>th</sup> Popes, Cardinalls, Monkes, ffryers, Nunnes & such like, besides sundry inscrip<sup>ti</sup>ons vpon Tōbes, Grauestones and windowes as, *Orate pro Anima*, & *Orate pro Animabus*, &c., All w<sup>ch</sup> wee conceaue to bee monum<sup>ts</sup> of Idolatry and supstition, And therefore that it is necessary they should bee removed and vtterly destroyed Not only in the places before men<sup>ti</sup>oned butt in all other places where there are the like or of like nature w<sup>th</sup>in the Jurisdiccon of this Citie. And in especiall manner the Cheapside Crosse (by w<sup>ch</sup> we meane not only the Crosse itsel<sup>f</sup>e strictly so called butt the whole ffabricke w<sup>ch</sup> comonly goes vnder that name) for all w<sup>ch</sup> wee are ready to tender to this Court some of those reasons amongst many w<sup>ch</sup> wee conceaue doe iustifie and make good this our iudgment and resolu<sup>ti</sup>on

Wiffm Gouge  
Thomas Case  
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The w<sup>ch</sup> Report beeing here openly read was allowed of and ordered to bee entered into the Repertory and to bee accordingly p<sup>er</sup>formed by direcon of Mr. Mosse Comptrolo<sup>r</sup> of the Chamber of London and Mr. Swayne keep of the

<sup>1</sup> Howell's "Londinopolis," p. 115.

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 55, fol. 199.

<sup>3</sup> Repertory 56, fol. 161.

Guildhall or one of them for so much as concerns the pictures and figures in the Glasse windowes aforesaid and for the demolishing of the Crosse in Cheape it is thought fitt that the Comons in Parliament bee moued for the doeing thereof.

In the year 1439 we have a record of the works of the new Hall being still incomplete, for on the 6th November, 1439, 18 Henry VI, there is a memorandum that there came into the Chamber of the Guildhall John Lovehow, John Broddesworth, John Wyneiton, and John Stystede, executors of the will of Robert Chichele, late citizen and grocer, of London, and brought into Court £20, lately bequeathed by him to the support of London Bridge, and also £20 towards the sustentation of the work of the Guildhall, London, also by him bequeathed, and for which they were acquitted.<sup>1</sup>

Stow records another bequest of interest in connection with the fittings of the Hall, but as to which he is partially inaccurate. He says:—"Nicholas Alwyn, grocer, Mayor, 1499, deceased 1505, gave by his testament for a hanging of tapestry, to serve for principal days in the Guildhall £73 6s. 8d. How this gift was performed I have not heard, for executors of our time, having no conscience (I speak of my own knowledge), prove more testaments than they perform."<sup>2</sup> This Nicholas Alwyn does not appear to have been a member of the Grocers' Company; he, in truth, belonged to the Mercers; his residence was in the Mercery, and his last resting-place the Church of St. Mary-le-Bow. In the following extract<sup>3</sup> there is a reference to the fact that Sir Nicholas gave to the Corporation three "Cloythes of Arras," for the use of the City; but that they were, it seems, to be kept in the custody of the Wardens of the Mercers' Company for the time being, and to be delivered up at such times as occasion might require. It does not appear, however, that there is any reference to the tapestry in any testament of Nicholas Alwyn enrolled in the Court of Hustings.

xvij<sup>o</sup> DIE DECEMBRIS ANNO REGNI REGIS HENRICI vij xxiij<sup>o</sup>.

At the same Court the Wardens of the Mercery come before the Maire and Aldermen, And by the monthe of Michaell Englishe, one of the executors of M. Nicholas Alwyn late Alderman of the Citie shewde the last will and mynde of the seid Nicholas touching the Custodie and keepng of the iij Clothes of Arrays that the same M. Nicholas gave to the vse of the Cominaltie of this Citie; Whiche Michaell shewde and affermed that the mynde of the saide M. Alwyn was that the saide Clothes shuld remayne from tyme to tyme in the keepng of the Wardens of the mercers for the tyme being so that all tymes when it shuld be thought by the Maire and Aldermen conuenient for the honor of this Citie the seid Wardens for the tyme being shuld delyner the seid Clothes to such persones as by the saide Maire and Aldermen shalbe appointed to haue the onersight of themyn and the charge of the relyuery of the same to be made to the seid Wardens after the besynes doen and passed.

It is in connection with the above-mentioned bequests that we get the first introduction to the two Louvres, which were at one time such prominent objects upon the roof of the old Hall. In the early views of the building taken previous to the Fire of 1666 these small lanterns or turrets are readily discerned. They were for the purpose of ventilation or if fires were lighted, as was often customary upon an open hearth, they would be necessary in order to allow for the escape of smoke. As an addition to the Hall they do not appear to

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book E, fol. 179b.

<sup>2</sup> Stow's "Survey," p. 103.

<sup>3</sup> Journal ii, fol. 28. The substance of this entry appears in Letter Book M, and also in Repertory 2, fol. 87 b. In the latter there is this addition, "*hangynge and garnysshyng of the over and higher parts of the Guildhall.*" These words for some reason have been crossed through. They, however, account for the statement by Stow, and it is probable that from this volume he derived his information.



have been put up until some seventy years or more after the work had been commenced, for Stow tells us that it was in the year 1481 that William Hariot, Draper and Mayor,



"gave forty pounds to the making of two loovers in the said Guildhall, and towards the glazing thereof."<sup>1</sup> It does not appear from the records that there were any in existence prior to this time and unless there be some chronological error in the references it would seem that nearly ten years elapsed between the grant made by William Hariot and the time of their construction, for under the date 1491 there is an entry in the Chronicle of the Grey Friars of London, to the following effect: "Thys yere in September the Kynge went to Callys with a grete armé agaynst France, but the pece was made with-owte battelle. And the Qwenys moder dicessyd. And the lovers sett up on the yelde halle of London."<sup>2</sup> This record, brief as it is, possesses interest, for coupled with the mention of events of national importance, it is sufficient to show that the works still in progress at the Guildhall were matters of public interest, not to the citizens only but

of general import and sufficient to attract the attention of the monkish chroniclers of the time. The accompanying woodcuts afford excellent illustrations of such lanterns or turrets as those referred to. Derived from the French word *L'Ouverture*, the objects and purpose of the Louvre are at once intelligible, as to



provide for ventilation or for the escape of smoke from an open fire they were entirely open at the sides, or closed only with narrow boards placed horizontally and sloping, and at a little distance apart, so as to exclude the rain and sun without impeding the passage of the smoke.<sup>3</sup> If their addition to a building was simply for the purpose of ornamentation, or to afford more light, they were usually glazed in the same manner as is the beautiful lantern which



crowns the roof of the present Hall. Our woodcuts afford examples of the more general forms. The first is from

<sup>1</sup> Stow's "Survey," p. 102.

<sup>2</sup> "Chronicle of the Grey Friars of London," p. 25.

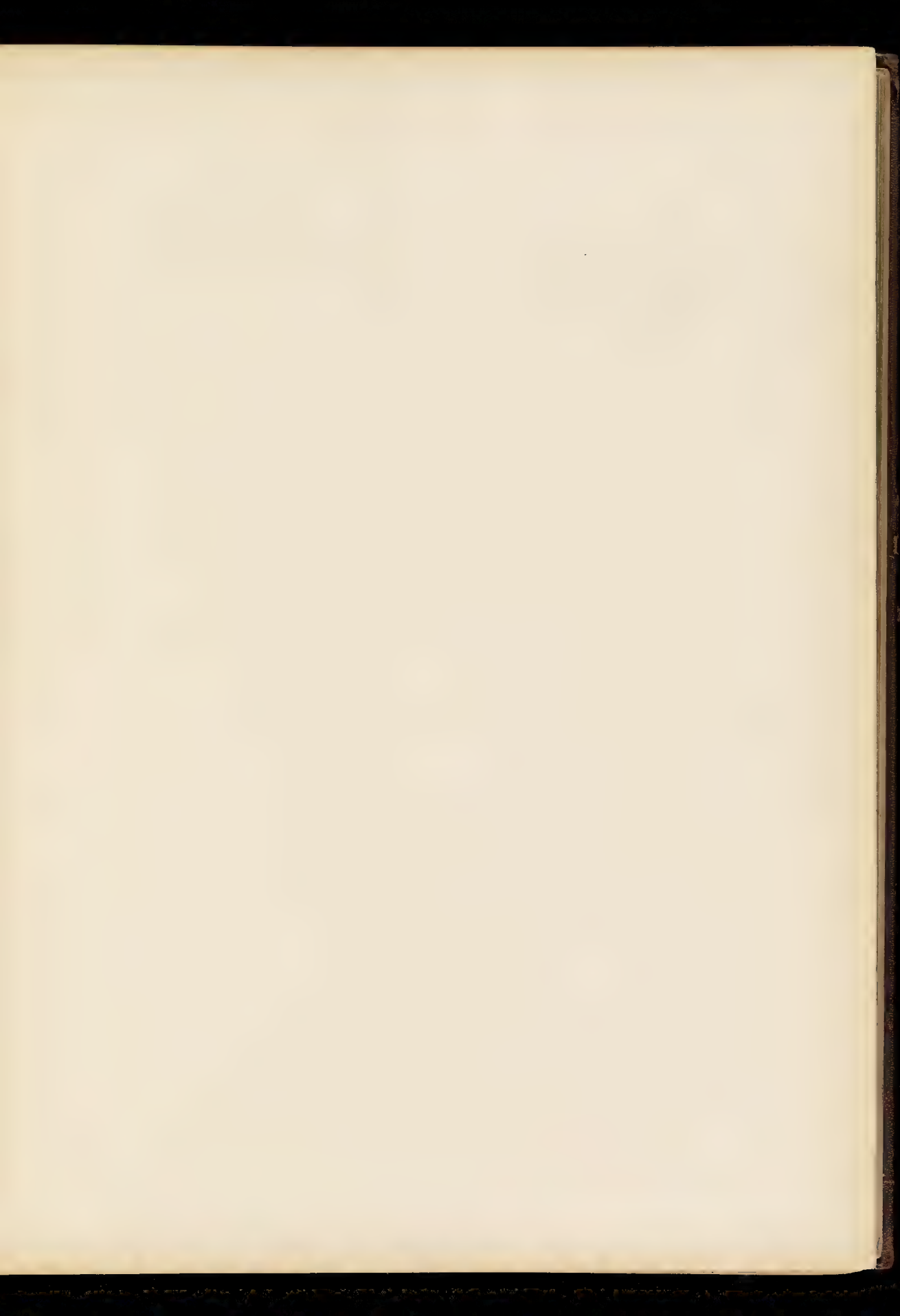
<sup>3</sup> "Glossary of Architecture," by J. H. Parker, F.S.A., 1875.





FROM THE ORIGINAL OF ANTONY VAN DEN WYNGAERDE'S VIEW OF LONDON. Circa 1550.

*Preserved in the Bodleian Library, Oxford.*















a building in a town in France; the second from one of the Colleges at Oxford, where more than one interesting example yet remains; and the third is an engraving of the best illustration preserved to us in London, viz., that at Barnard's Inn, near Holborn.<sup>1</sup> It is of the time of Henry VIII, and is one of the few which have remained in their original condition to the present day. It is formed of lead throughout. The necessity for their presence other than as a decorative feature having disappeared, they are mostly now closed in by glass. At the Colleges of Oriel and Wadham, at Oxford, the "louvres" can still be seen, and upon the roof of Lincoln College in the same City there is yet one in its original condition.

In Wyngaerde's "View of London," taken about the year 1550, the louvres on the roof of the Hall are shown, but this does not appear to be the case in the first edition of the map published by Ralph Agas, about the year 1560, although both the turrets can be identified in the edition preserved at Guildhall Library, a section of which appears in the present volume. The same applies to St. Laurence's Church, which is not delineated at all in the early copy. In Ryther's map, published at Amsterdam in 1604, the Church is shown, and an open space can be identified as surrounding the Hall, with a way of egress opening out into Cate or Cateaton Street, as this thoroughfare was formerly called. In Newcourt's map of 1658, the Hall is represented with one large circular louvre in the centre surmounted by a cross. In Overton's map, 1676, this large circular turret is also shown, and in a late plan, viz., that published by Robert Norden and Philip Lea, in 1690, one louvre appears in addition to four circular turrets, one at each angle of the Hall, and resembling those delineated upon a French view published two years previously. In the Pepysian Library, at Magdalen College, Cambridge, is a map styled "*The Long Antwerp Prospect*;" in that no louvre is seen, but simply a gable or turret at either end of the ridge of the high-pitched roof; and in a highly interesting view of the City, entitled "*Profil de la Ville des Londres Capitall du Royaume d'Angleterre*,"<sup>2</sup> but undated, St. Laurence's Church is shown with the Guildhall adjoining. This view must have been taken after the introduction of the louvres, for there appear two upon the roof in addition to the gables at either end. In this view, the porch or entrance projects boldly from the Hall, and the adjacent churches and other buildings are all well and sharply drawn. This map, rich in detail, is simply described as "*Another Long Prospect by a French Hand*." There is likewise a copy of a large map entitled "*Pricke's South Prospect of London*," and drawn to a much larger scale than are any of the others; the houses, for example, on the south side of the river, in the immediate vicinity of the Bear Garden and Winchester House, are individually sketched together with the trees in the various gardens, &c. The Hall is represented with a sharply-ridged and sloping roof, and with two louvres only, but these are of that peculiar circular form which figures so prominently in the French prints of a later time. In addition there are to be seen upon this plan two dormer windows at the base of the roof, which afford a ready indication of how light was admitted to this portion of the building. In

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to the Council of the Surrey Archaeological Society for the loan of the woodcut in connection with Barnard's Inn. This originally appeared in an excellent paper upon "Old Timber Houses," by Mr. Charles Baily, which was printed by that Society.

<sup>2</sup> Plan de la Ville de Londres, Westminster, et Southwark. Dedié aux très nobles seigneurs le Lord Maire et Conseillers de la Ville, —by James Covens et Corneille Mortier. 1688.



this interesting view of London, Cole Harbour with the buildings adjoining, together with the landing stage at the Stillyard or Hall of the Hanse merchants, are all clearly shown. Approaching the Tower and London Bridge, the river is seen in its lower reaches with its winding course, depicted as visible for miles, and, thronged with vessels and crafts of different kinds, presenting altogether a busy scene. Old Fishmongers' Hall and St. Laurence Pountney's Church are, at this point, among the most noticeable illustrations. The view commences with Westminster and the adjacent country. In this celebrated collection of matters relating to London, in which the great diarist felt so deep an interest, there are included a series of Hollar's views of London, one "*From ye top of Arundell House,*" another simply marked London, and dated 1638, but of small size. There is further Hollar's "*True and exact Prospect of the Famous City of London from St. Marie Overs Steeple in Southwarke, in its Flourishing condition Before the Fire.*" In this the Hall appears with the two louvres, as in other cases. In another copy, by the same artist, entitled "*Another Prospect of the sayd City, taken from the same place as it appeareth now after the sad Calamite and Destruction by Fire in the yeare MDCLXVI,*" the Guildhall is shown as still standing, destruction appearing only to have overtaken the roof, many of the supporting ribs of which are shown as still in their original position. Shortly after the Fire, Overton published Hollar's engraving of the City as it then appeared, the blank space represented with the walls, signifying, as he says in his brief descriptive notice, "the burnt parte, and where the houses are exprest those places yet standing." On this plan Guildhall, together with the Chapel and Blackwell Hall, are identified with a large unoccupied site around them. The position of the Hall is very clear, likewise the thoroughfares of Aldermanbury, Basinghall Street, and the way which led up to the Hall from Cateaton Street. In a later view, as sketched from Lambeth at a time after the public buildings had been many of them re-built or restored, as proved by the circular Dome of St. Paul's Cathedral, the Hall is shown with the large circular "louvre" in the centre. It is probably at this time that this alteration was made, viz., when the repairs to the roof were being adjusted, quite at the close of the 17th, or early in the 18th, century. The section of Hollar's map, selected for present illustration, is fac-similed from the original copy in the possession of the Corporation at the Guildhall Library, bearing date the year 1647. It is a good illustration of the aspect of the City at this time, and of its relation to the fields and suburbs. The Hall was considered of sufficient note to have its name recorded on the drawing, and it is shown, as in other cases, with the high-pitched roof, turrets, and gables at either end; while behind it are represented a few straggling houses. This is as it would be at the time the drawing was made, for but little building intervened between the north side of the Guildhall and the fields known as Moorfields just outside the City wall. To the left of the view is a fine representation of the magnificent structure of the old Cathedral of St. Paul's, and beyond, the eye rests upon green fields again, with the gradual rising elevation of the ground extending from Islington to Highgate. The aspect presented by this probably faithful view of the old City, as it was seen by Hollar, is in wonderful contrast to that to which we are accustomed, although but little more than two centuries have intervened. The change has been both rapid and wonderful as regards the great increase in the area now known as London, and that some foresight existed among the thinkers, even of the early part of the 17th century, as to its ultimate growth and





S. Pauwls Church

S. Andre in Holborne

Keygat



Queene by the

The 3. Cranes

Stiliar

T H A M E

Winchester house







Boo Church

Guildhall

4. Alhallouws of great

S. Lorentz Poulney

the Royal Exchange



Cole harbour

The Old Swan

S I S F L U

Southwarke







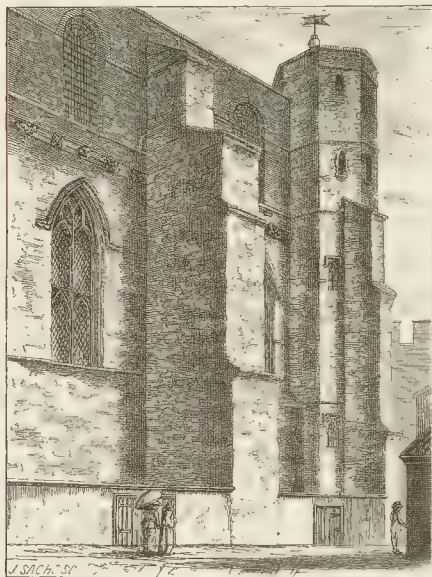
increase, is shown by the following interesting epigram<sup>1</sup> published in the year 1614, the words of which are little other than prophetic in their meaning:—

“Why how now, *Babell*, whither wilt thou build?—  
 The old Holborne, Charing Crosse, the Strand,  
 Are going to St. Giles'-in-the Field,  
 Saint Katerne she takes Wapping by the hand.  
 And Hogsdon will to Hy-gate ere 't be long.  
 London has got a great way from the streame.  
 I think she means to go to Islington,  
 To eat a dish of strawberries and creame.  
 The *City's* sure in *Progresse*, I surmise  
 Or going to revell it in some disorder,  
 Without the walls, without the liberties,  
 Where she neede feare nor Mayor, nor Recorder.  
 Well, say she do, 'twere pretty, yet 'tis pity,  
 A *Middlesex* bailiff should arrest the *City*.”

There is yet another map of some interest known as the long map of William Morgan, and entitled, “*A Prospect of London and Westminster taken at Several Stations to the Southward thereof.*” In this map more than usual attention has been devoted to the Guildhall, the great circular “*louvre*” or turret comes out prominently with its lateral openings at the four corners of the building; the gables are also shown. The illustration resembles, moreover, one which we have selected for this work, viz., a French view entitled, “*Vue de l'Hotel de Ville à Londres,*” or Prospect of Guildhall. This particular view, which appears to be somewhat scarce, is preserved among the prints and engravings in the Gough collection at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, but to what work it has belonged I have not yet been able to ascertain. It would seem to have been a volume of some interest, inasmuch as the plate is numbered 41. Therefore, there were many others, doubtless, illustrative of London buildings as they then appeared. The great peculiarity of the representation of the Guildhall, about which there is an air of truthfulness, is the tower in the centre of the roof and the cupola above it. This structure was doubtless of wood, covered over with lead. The vane, with the City Arms supported by a dwarf column finishing the cupola, was an appropriate termination; the four turrets had, also, similar vanes. The sun-dials which are seen upon each face of the base do not appear delineated in any other known view of Guildhall. Thus placed, they are novel features, but, at the same time, characteristic of the period, viz., the close of the 17th century, or very early in the eighteenth, when there were alterations and repairs in connection with the roof. The south wall, which was raised 20 feet higher by Sir Christopher Wren, the embattled turrets, with their ogee cupolas and dragon vanes are conspicuously shown. In many points the view resembles a later one bearing the same title, viz., “*Prospect of Guildhall,*” which has been selected for illustration. It was prepared for Strype's edition of Stow's “*Survey,*” printed in 1755; in this the absence of the central turret may be noted. This engraving is also to be seen in Maitland's “*London,*” it is the same in every particular as the one issued by John Bowles in the year 1724.

<sup>1</sup> From *London Progresse*, in a Collection of Epigrams, by Thomas Freeman, entitled, “*Rub and a Great Cast,*” 1614, 4to.

In some of these views, the tower belonging to the old Gothic building at the south-east angle of the Hall may be identified, but the best illustration of it in detail is one published by J. P. Malcolm in his "*Londinium Redivivum*."<sup>1</sup>



In the annexed fac-simile of this etching two of the fine windows belonging to the south side of the Hall, will be seen. They belong to that portion of the building which was separated from the Chapel by a public passage. This was an ancient way, and one which existed up to recent times, the alteration probably having taken place when the Chapel was demolished in the year 1822, the site being required for the new courts of law, then about to be erected.

These windows, 21 feet in height and 7 feet in width, were similar. The design was of a character much adopted when third pointed style of Gothic architecture was fully established, at the time of the erection of the Hall.

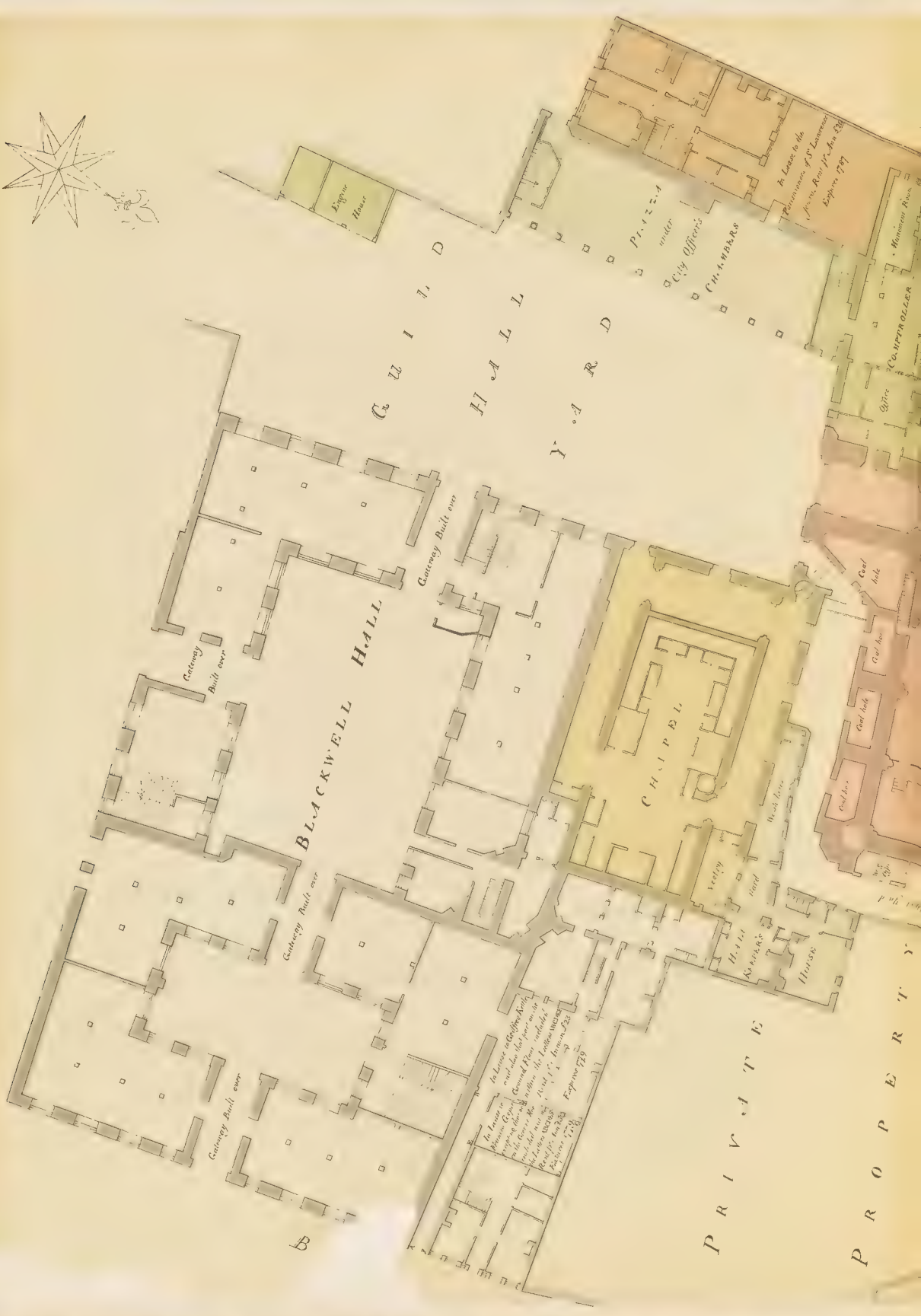
Instead of the flowing tracery which was a distinguishing feature of the preceding decorated

style, the leading principle of that which succeeded it is especially defined in the treatment of the window heads, these frequently were so divided up as to become a series of vertical

<sup>1</sup> A writer in the "*Gentleman's Magazine*," Feb. 1751, describing a plate of the Old Hall, given in this number remarks that the illustration is not copied in any way from Stow or Maitland, and speaks of the inaccuracy of their illustrations, observing that the plate then given is taken from the building itself. The illustration, quaint as it is, with the old-fashioned coach and singular costume of the figures which make up the foreground of the picture possesses certain exceptional points of interest inasmuch as it indicates, not only the front of the Hall itself, but the buildings right and left. There is an air of truthfulness, too, about the representation inasmuch as each building is numbered by a figure which corresponds with a description beneath. In this particular view, for instance, there are shown Blackwell Hall, Guild Hall Chapel, Court of Request Chamber, Irish Society Chamber, Comptroller's Office, Comptroller's House, Common Sergeant's and City Remembrancer's Office, City Solicitor's Office, and St. Laurence's Church. The description given is mostly compiled from Maitland and others; the writer, however, remarks "The Reviewer of Public Buildings says Guildhall is situated very happily in sight of the most frequented thoroughfare in the whole City, and at the end of a very tolerable vista which shows the building in the most favorable manner; but the front of it has not much title to this advantage: 'Tis old and Gothique and has no great matter in it either of design or execution. The Hall within I acknowledge a very fine room, allowing for the taste 'tis built in; but then the entrance should have been at the lower end, and not in the middle, for by this means all the beauty of the perspective is lost. Another material defect in it is this. The ascent of steps on the other side is not exactly opposite to the gate as it ought to be for the sake of regularity and beauty; and if those two execrable giants on each side were taken down, 'twould argue more taste in those who destroyed them than those who set them up.'" Vol. xxi, p. 57.







# Guildhall and its surroundings, About A.D. 1750.



From the Original Plan in the Office of the "City Architect."



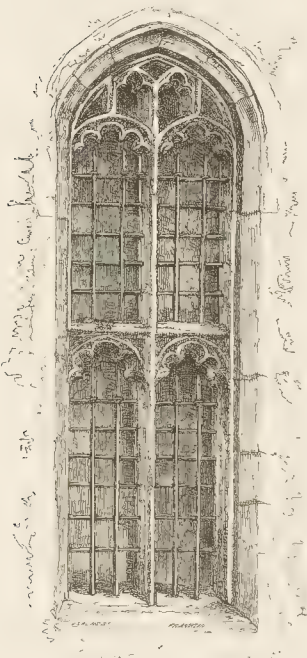


panelling. The rigid lines of the mullions, intersected by transoms, completed the characteristic details.

Upon reference to the plan of 1750, the south wall of the Hall and the south-east turret with the minor objects, can be discerned. The "coal-holes" with the doors and the end of a "wash-house" are likewise shown.

The original massive moulded string-course of the parapet with bold, sculptured enrichments in varied forms of foliated pateræ, grotesque heads, animals, &c., is well depicted; also, the octagonal turret with one of its weathered buttresses of three stages, and numerous slit-lights, with arched cusped heads and drip-stones, but without the cupola roof and the huge buttress of four weathered stages which was apparently increased in size in order to meet the extra height added to the ancient wall. Malcolm's etching shows this later work which, in connection with a low-pitched roof, was built immediately after the Great Fire of 1666.

In the accompanying illustration of one of the windows, where the details are more carefully given than in Malcolm's drawing, the vertical line of the mullion which divides the window is well defined, as is also the transom which separates the lights into two tiers. The heads of the principal lights are cinque-foiled, a feature very characteristic of the style, but the minor lights in the arch are varied by tre-foils only.



The woodcut is from a drawing made by Mr. John Franklin. It was sketched on the occasion of a visit of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society to Guildhall in 1859, and appears in the "Transactions" of the Society. It shows the outside of the window, and is a faithful representation of its details as they then appeared, and of its general condition.

The Kitchen and other offices connected with a later time are attributed to the year 1501, and their erection to have been due to the exertions of Sir John Shaa, goldsmith, and Mayor in the year mentioned. He was a distinguished man of his time, having been knighted on the field, and made a banneret. He it was who first held the annual feast in Guildhall, the customary banquet on the installation of the Mayor having been formerly given in one of the halls belonging to the City Companies. Since that time, with the

The Kitchen  
and Offices.

exception of the interval occasioned by the Fire, when those Companies, whose Halls had been spared from destruction, were at once willing to lend them for the purpose, the great annual dinner given by the Mayor and Sheriffs has been kept at Guildhall.

The earliest notice in connection with the Kitchen department is found in Stow,<sup>1</sup> who writes thus :—

"The Kitchens and other houses of office adjoining to this Guildhall were built about the year 1501, by procurement of John Sha; towards the charges of the work the Mayor had of the Fellowships of the City, by their own agreement, certain sums of money, as of the Mercers, forty pounds; the Grocers, twenty pounds; the Drapers, thirty pounds; and so of the other Fellowships through the City, as they were of power."

The works were evidently undertaken without delay, as shown by the following extract from the City archives, in which Auditors are appointed to examine the accounts and report to the Court.

7 NOVEMBER [A.D. 1503].<sup>2</sup>

the newe		M. Woode,	}	Aldeŕ.	apпойntid and namyd Auditourz for the mony that is geуyn to the Kechyn and the newe Werk ther, and to make Reporte to the Courte.
Kechyn.		M. Janyne,			

28 FEBRUARY [A.D. 1504].<sup>3</sup>

the Kechyn at		M. Jennyns,	}	Aldŕ.	} apпойntid for Auditors to tacke aswell accompte of All charges done vpon the nwe beldyng at the Gildhall as of all mony gyvyn to the same workes.
theldhall.		M. Keball,			
		Xrofer Eliot, goldsmyth,			
		John Briggs, draper,			
					} Coiŕarii.

About a year later the works were completed, and a final audit appointed.

13 NOVEMBER [20 HENRY VI, A.D. 1504].<sup>4</sup>

M. Hawes,	}	apпойntid and namyd to tacke thacompte and . . . . of the Costis doon aboute the M. Fitz Wilyam,	} Kechyne And othir . . . . beldyng made at the Guyldhall, and to macke . . . . to the courte of the areraiges remaynyng in . . . . handes.

Herafter folowth the Summes of money grauntid by seuerall Fealships of this Cite towards the beldyng of howses of office at the gyldhall as kechyns pastry ovenis and other thinges necessary.<sup>5</sup>

In the same record appears a long list of Fellowships who had contributed to the cost of the building, making an interesting supplement to Stow's short list already noticed. It appears in one of the volumes, which at some time or other has been restored, without due regard to all the pages being in strict chronological order. The name, however, appears on one of them of Sir John Shaa as Mayor. Stow is, therefore, probably accurate in associating him with this particular work. The entry is as follows :—

Goldsmynthes	... ..	xxvi. li xiiij s iiij d.	Peauterers	... ..	xl s
Mercers	... ..	xl li	Bruers	... ..	x li
Grocers	... ..	xx li	Shermen	... ..	x li
Drapers	... ..	xxx li	Bakers	... ..	vj li xiiij s iiij d
Fishmongers	... ..	xx li	<sup>6</sup> Hwrs Hettermerchantes	... ..	v li
Skynners	... ..	x li	Wexchaundlers	... ..	iiij li vj s viij d
Taillours	... ..	xx li	Taloughchaundlers	... ..	iiij li vj s viij d
Haberdasshers	... ..	xiiij li	Gyrdlers	... ..	iiij li vj s viij d
Salters	... ..	vj li xii	Bochers	... ..	viij li
Vyntneers	... ..	} (illegible)	Lethersellers	... ..	iiij li vj s viij d
Stockfishmongers	... ..		Masons	... ..	iiij of hardestone of
Iremongers	... ..	v li			Kent to the pauyng
Dyers	... ..	v li			of the Kychon or
Soryyaners	... ..	iiij li vj s viij d			els xl s

<sup>1</sup> Stow's "Survey," p. 103.

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 1, fol. 145b.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., fol. 153b.

<sup>4</sup> Repertory 1, fol. 176.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., fol. 181, et seq.

<sup>6</sup> Makers of "Hures," or shaggy fur caps.



Bowyers ... ..	xl s̄	Wiresellers ... ..	
Coriours ... ..	xl s̄	Wevers ... ..	iiij li vj s̄ vj d (?)
Fullers ... ..	x mares	Fulsters ... ..	xl s̄
Cuttelers ... ..	iiij li vj s̄ viij d	Surgicions ( <i>sic</i> ) ... ..	xl s̄
Inholders ... ..	xx s̄	Glovers purcers ... ..	xl s̄
Saddlers ... ..	iiij li	Wolmen ... ..	
Peynterstayners ... ..	xxvj s̄ viij d	Sporiours ... ..	xiiij s̄ iiij d
Plummers ... ..	iiij li	Felmongers ... ..	
Cordeners ... ..	xl s̄	Vpholders ... ..	
Flecochers ... ..	ij li (?)	Tylers ... ..	xxvj s̄ viij d
Carpenters ... ..	liij s̄ iiij d	Lynendrapers ... ..	xxx s̄
Berbours ... ..		Lymemen ... ..	every man a C lyme
Armorerers ... ..	iiij mares	Wodmongers ... ..	
Founders ... ..	xl s̄	Vpholders ... ..	
Cowpers ... ..	liij s̄ iiij d	Lorymers ... ..	
Blacksmythes ... ..	xx s̄	Stacioners ... ..	
Bladesmythes ... ..	xx s̄	Browderers ... ..	
Joyours ... ..	xl s̄	Plasterers ... ..	
Summa iiij <sup>1</sup> xiiij li xvj s̄ viij d.			

In the foregoing quaint but interesting history we note that the majority of the Livery Companies contributed towards the requirements of these additional buildings. Among them may be seen the names of corporations long since dissolved, owing to the various changes in manners and customs the particular craft which they represented had become decayed and obsolete, and either led to the amalgamation of different branches of the same trade, or else to total extinction. The "Shermen," for example, who appear in the list, and who are first spoken of in the year 1452, viz., at the time when the rules were registered in the Court of the Commissary of London—became united with the Fullers by Henry VIII in the year 1528, the combined fraternities assuming the title of Clothworkers, which survives to the present day. Again, the "Sporiours,"<sup>1</sup> whose articles are entered in the civic records under the year 1345, have long ceased to exist. So, also, the "Wodmongers," "Felmongers," and others.<sup>2</sup> It may be further noted that out of the number who made grants there are two of the Companies, who, while not contributing money, yet gave of the goods in which they were interested—viz., the Masons sent a quantity of "hardestone of Kent," viz., Kentish rag-stone, and the Lymemen, a fair proportion of lime from each member of their Guild.<sup>3</sup>

On referring to the plan of 1750 it will be observed that these buildings, for which the above sums were collected, occupied an important area on the north-west side of the Hall, extending from the yard to the western end of the main building, varying in width. The Bakehouse of Guildhall was situated beneath the north end of the Court of King's Bench; it was furnished with four spacious ovens in two tiers, the mouths opening

<sup>1</sup> Makers of Spurs.

<sup>2</sup> In the "Report of the City of London Liveries Commission," published in 1884, it is mentioned that the Companies which had become extinct since the date of the Municipal Commissioners' Report in 1837, were the Combmakers, Fishermen, Gardeners, Hat-bandmakers, Longbow Stringmakers, Paviours, Pinmakers, Silk Weavers, Silk Throwers, Soapmakers, Starchmakers, Tobacco-Pipe Makers, and Woodmongers.

<sup>3</sup> Letter Book F, fol. 107.

into the west wall of the Court, and the whole projecting into the Confectionery Room, where there was a small oven, and other arrangements over the crown of the large ovens, not now visible, all having been long since swept away. These two rooms were connected by a passage, the external wall of which commenced at the sub-porch, and ran westward, intercepted by a return wall to the Hall buttress, thereby enclosing the two end bays, and the space behind the western end of the Hall marked "Kitchen to Guildhall." The space between the Porch and the return wall was open, lighting the passage by three windows, and contained the doorway "Stores to Corridor," and another entrance to the Kitchen. Part of this space now remains an open area.

The Confectionery was lighted by two windows from "Measure Yard," and another building on the west of this open court had a doorway and three windows with an entrance to the "Repositories"<sup>1</sup> and a way between the two yards. All the windows are now filled in, but a small doorway remains in the west room, having a four-centered pointed head. An internal doorway connected the foregoing with the Kitchen. It was suitably fitted with every convenience for the supply of large entertainments. In the last north bay of the Hall, a doorway was connected with some steps, probably these were used for the service of the banquet. The kitchens were accessible from the yard and the sub-porch, as well as from Guildhall Yard by the Eastern Crypt, through the south and the opposite, north, doorway. There was also an entrance from the bay west of the Porch into the Western Crypt, for the use of these kitchens, now filled up, but the steps remain. The two remaining doorways appear to be the only relics visible which afford information as to the style of the edifice, but the plan showing mullioned windows indicates a building of some pretensions, and the thick walls are of a substantial character. The small window to "Bake House" lighted from "Measure Yard," and described before, was associated with this group of windows. It would appear that the whole of the square area was at first devoted to these culinary objects, in addition to the south-west kitchen. Doubtless, an important building occupied the site; but this description refers only to the arrangements of the one story. Owing to the Fire of 1666 and numerous other causes, many changes have occurred both here and above, leaving but little requiring more than a passing notice.

#### The Roof.

The original roof of the Hall is presumed to have been of timber, in accordance with the practice adopted with other buildings erected at the same period. It was partially, if not wholly, destroyed in the Fire of 1666. Its lofty pitch is indicated, as before mentioned, not only in Wyngaerde's "View of London" in 1550, but also in Hollar's plan in 1647, and indeed in all representations of Guildhall, as it is believed to have existed prior to its destruction. A curious painting taken from Greenwich, and said to have been at one time in the possession of the late Colonel Smith, Deputy-Governor of the Tower,<sup>2</sup> represented the City of London as it appeared to the artist immediately after the conflagration; this shows a third of the roof as still standing and decidedly of a gable form. In addition to this, one of the diarists of the time records the appearance of the Hall at the time when the Fire was at its height. "That night (Tuesday,

<sup>1</sup> Record Rooms.

<sup>2</sup> "Gentleman's Magazine," vol. lxxxix, pt. i, p. 42.

4th September, 1666) the sight of Guildhall was a fearful spectacle, which stood the whole body of it together in view for several hours together after the Fire had taken it, without flames (I suppose because the timber was of such solid oake) in a bright shining coale, as if it had been a palace of gold, or a great building of burnished brass."<sup>1</sup>

There is a further contemporary<sup>2</sup> account in connection with the old roof of the Guildhall given by Richard Blome (whose printed works range from the year 1670 to 1693).<sup>3</sup> He relates that at the Great Fire "the roofs, floors, and what else was therein were consumed. These rooms, courts, and offices, are appropriated to the same place, wherein they were kept formerly, but much more regular and loftier, and more substantially built. The Great Hall being formerly in height, as to the upright of the walls, not above 30 feet, which now are raised 20 feet higher on either side and at both ends, where there are fair windows and eight large windows on either side, of 16 feet high each window, where there were none before, and over all the flat roof and platform leaded, with battlements about it, whereas before the roof did meet at the top, as in common buildings." In a report made by the late M. Digby Wyatt, and Edward Roberts, the two eminent architects, who were requested by the Corporation to examine the roof in the year 1864, for the purpose of offering suggestions as to the form which the new one should assume, these gentlemen remark that the above description as given by Blome is substantially borne out by the state of the building, since not only do the walls still show old stonework to the height of just about thirty feet, at which level occur the caps to the piers, from which, no doubt, the great roof trusses sprang—but all above that line up to the ceiling, is of comparatively modern work, for about the dimension above stated, viz., twenty feet, the modern windows being just sixteen feet high, as he describes them. In further corroboration of his account, it may be mentioned, that a difference of thickness occurs in the eastern end wall, corresponding with a cement moulding, which no doubt approximately took the place of the old coping to the gable end above and below the line at which that gable end originally terminated. At the western end, the ancient line of the rake of the original roof corresponding with Blome's description, is even more positively given on the interior of the building, by the termination of the old wall, following at a fair tangent to the arch mould of the window. The height and form so indicated correspond very closely indeed to it both with his account, and with what is usual in structures of the same date and style. The original windows still exist intact, by which light was obtained through the lateral walls of the Hall, beneath the level of a continuous cornice covering a wall plate. In a later portion of this report which relates to the description of the earlier roof, it is remarked that Blome's account, when compared with the then existing roof, &c., shows with a certainty that the original transverse section of the Hall consisted of an oblong of about forty-nine feet wide by forty feet from the floor to the foot of the rafters, covered by a roof rising from the sides to the ridge in the form of a triangle, apparently slightly flatter at the apex than an equilateral triangle; and it appears further in the report that a section which was

<sup>1</sup> Vincent's "God's Terrible Voice in the City," edit. 1667, p. 66.

<sup>2</sup> Styrpe's Stow, edit. 1720. Book iii, p. 52.

<sup>3</sup> Roof of Guildhall Report to the Court of Common Council, 2 May, 1861.



prepared by the City Architect, in illustration of these remarks, corresponded fairly with those usual for large and important halls covered by open timber roofs in the fifteenth century.

A reference is then made to an interesting volume preserved in the British Museum,<sup>1</sup> which contains an engraving bearing the following title, "*The Roof Formerly Standing in Guildhall.*"



THE ROOF OF GUILDHALL.

This particular work is entirely devoted to specimens of ancient carpentry, but it unfortunately contains illustrations only, with no descriptive letterpress. This illustration, however, bears the title referred to inscribed in faded ink, and in a character which might well do for the period at which the work was published, viz., in 1736, some half century before the alterations were contemplated by Mr. George Dance. There is a semblance of truth about the drawing, and allowing for

slight inaccuracies in points of detail, the section corresponds fairly well with the simple form of hammer beam roof common to such buildings at the time the Hall was enlarged in the fifteenth century. As the result of the report and the discussion which subsequently ensued at the various meetings of the Committee appointed to superintend the construction of the new roof, plans and drawings were prepared by Horace Jones, F.R.I.B.A., the City Architect; and in the year 1865 the beautiful open timbered roof, which now forms so attractive a portion of the building, was finally completed. An interesting paper on the subject, fully illustrated by the plans and drawings referred to, was read before the Royal Institute of British Architects by the gentleman above mentioned, on the 26th June, 1865; and it is from this paper that the plate entitled "Guildhall Interior," has been selected for illustration in this volume. At this meeting a discussion followed, when several distinguished architects, viz., Professor T. Hayter Lewis, M.P., the late J. Henry Parker, F.S.A., E. Roberts, F.S.A., J. W. Papworth, Octavius Hansard, the late Mr. Charles Baily, and

<sup>1</sup> "A specimen of Antient Carpentry, Consisting of a Variety of Designs for Roofs, Exemplifyd in Common Circular Mixt Spiral and such w<sup>th</sup> have been fram'd in Publick and Private Antique Buildings, Collected by James Smith, Carpenter. To which are added Designs of Frontispieces to Doors, Gateways, Piers, Pavillions, Temples, Chimney Pieces, and other useful Decorations never before publish'd by Jones. The whole Illustrated with 66 Copper Plates neatly Engraven. London: Printed for the Author and Sold at his House in Margaret Street near Cavendish Square. Published according to Act of Parliam<sup>t</sup> 1736." The illustration referred to is Plate 28, I Smith, delin. I. Carwetham Sculp.





VIEW OF THE EAST END OF GUILDHALL AND THE OLD LIBRARY. 1870.



many others, expressed a most favourable opinion of the way the restoration had been carried out.

In the observations made by Mr. Baily, who had enjoyed the opportunity of watching the entire work as it had proceeded, we gather that at this time some moulded stones of large size had been found during the demolition of the upper walling which had been added to the sides of the Hall by Sir Christopher Wren. These appeared to be arch rib-stones, and in one instance blocks were found "in situ." Mr. Baily considered, and in this opinion he was supported by Mr. Burgess and others, that they had been portions of transverse ribs; but the fragments were insufficient to determine whether stone arched ribs with a superstructure of timber roofing set upon them, formed the original roof, similar to that which might be inferred from the existing remains of the Archbishop's Palace, at Mayfield, in Sussex.<sup>1</sup>

It may be mentioned that the description of the appearance of the Hall at the time of the Fire, already quoted, rather tends to show that the principals were of stone; but as was well observed by Mr. Parker, a mere view or sketch would not determine the fact. He quoted examples in both directions, and one at the Mote, Ightham, in Kent, where they were alternately of wood and stone. He remarked upon the excellence of the new roof, and how thoroughly consistent was the design, with the style of architecture in fashion at the period when the Guildhall was extended and enlarged.

As a further illustration of the general appearance presented by the exterior of the Hall, attention may be directed to the annexed view which has been re-produced from a photograph taken when the excavations were in progress for the erection of the new Library and Museum. When the works decided upon had been commenced, an opportunity presented itself for securing an illustration of the fine elevation of the east end of the Hall and the old Library as then disclosed, a view which owing to the erection of the new building would have again to be concealed. It will be seen on referring to the plan of 1750, that the way to Guildhall Yard then closely skirted the east end and turrets of the building, and continued as a thoroughfare until the Chapel was demolished in the year 1820 to make way for the new Law Courts then about to be erected in Guildhall Yard. Maitland remarks that Cut-throat Alley hath a passage up steps into Guildhall Yard by the Chapel buildings, &c. The east doorway to the Crypt may be noted; it was approached by a series of steps of Purbeck stone from the gates within the iron railings, through the doorway illustrated in the description of the Eastern Crypt. These steps were continued inside down to the level of the pavement which was five feet beneath the jambs of the external opening. In the reveals of this opening are doorways to the stairs in the thickness of the wall before mentioned. This wall was six feet in thickness up to the weathering of the great window. The east end to the extent indicated, including the buttresses against the mullions, had been rendered with cement. All work above has been reinstated, repaired and enriched with great care. The grand seven-light window with its many traceried sub-divisions surmounted by bold hood mouldings is assisted both in appearance and strength by the breadth of the relieving arch above. The turrets with embattled

<sup>1</sup> "Journal of Royal Institute of British Architects." Session 1864-5, p. 184.

parapets and crocketed spires crowned with finials and the three-faced buttress pinnacle on the gable coping, together with the circular light below, complete the composition. The walling is of Kentish rag coursed ashlar in small and graduated blocks. The south wall of the Hall likewise appears in the view. The Chamberlain's Court and adjacent buildings, formerly the Chamberlain's House, and the two covered openings for the "way or passage from Basinghall Street," are shown in the plan.

When first erected in the year 1411, the south-east turret plinth showed an additional height of four feet which owing to the gradual increase of the soil had by degrees become concealed from view. The present difference in level between Guildhall Yard and the bed of this plinth may be considered as about nine feet, therefore the ground has either thus accumulated within the five centuries which have nearly intervened between the erection of the building and the present time, or it was desirable for some reason or other to keep the finished face well down. The lower portions of the walls of the Crypt, where visible, are five feet below the plinth, with random inside facing, and it is observable that externally these walls and the sub-stratum of the plinths were originally but rubble work, an indication that they were built in and against the soil.

The Porch.

The entrance to the Hall from Guildhall Yard is through a bold and large Gothic archway on the south side. It forms the principal entrance and was erected in the year 1425, shortly after the foundations had been laid of the Mayor's Court. Stow records that the foundation of this Court<sup>1</sup> "was laide in the third year of the raigne of Henry VI, 1424, and of the porch on the south side of the Maior's Court in the fourth of the saide King." This was two years prior to the re-building and enlargement of the Chapel, to which reference has already been made. "Then was builded," he says, "the Maior's chamber and the counsell chamber, with other rooms above the staires. Last of all, a stately porch entering the Great Hall was erected, the front thereof towards the south being beautified with images of stone." This addition to the Hall was one of the most imposing features of the edifice, and prior to the alterations from the designs of Mr. Dance in the year 1789, was considerably in advance of the main building. Though subjected to minor alterations from time to time, its chief points of interest are uninjured. These combine two bays of groined vaulting, the walls having deeply recessed, moulded, and traceried panelling, varied where the side doorways to the Comptroller's Office, Crypt, and Library corridor occur, and being provided with a convenient bench against the side walls. The vaulting is richly groined with moulded principal and secondary ribs, springing from corresponding pillars, the intersections being enriched with handsome sculptured bosses of heraldic and foliated devices in varied designs, emblazoned and gilt, the two principal bosses bearing the Arms of Edward the Confessor and Henry VI. Among the others is the eagle of St. John, the bull of St. Luke, the lion of St. Mark, the angel of St. Mathew, and the monogram *ih̄s* for Jesus. Mr. Nichols remarks that the structure terminated with a straight parapet and quatre-foil ornaments, over which were placed the Royal Arms of England in a heavy square frame supported by scrolls. Round the lower part of the balcony were the Arms of thirty-four of the City companies. The porch was known as the "Guildhall Gate," and has been so recognised, not only

<sup>1</sup> Stow's "Survey," p. 102.







Shen - - - - and . . . . Moses -

Lupos Discipline.



1844

Finch

*[Faint handwritten notes at the bottom of the page]*

Figures on the outside of Goodhall London

Taken Jan 1783

Ergebenste Huldigung

upon the tokens<sup>1</sup> issued by the tradesmen of the seventeenth century, but likewise in much of the literature of the same period. There is an entry in the records relative to a house or mansion, in connection with the *lower* gate of Guildhall. The original is here given, together with a translation. It is difficult, however, precisely to understand the actual position of the house referred to, unless it be connected with the small entrance to the east of the porch, and in close proximity to the Chapel. This small gateway is shown in all the early representations of the south front of Guildhall.

Vicesimo die Februarii Anno Regni Regis Henrici Sexti post conquestum quinto In congregacione Johannis Reynwell Maioris Aldermanorum et immense communitatis Ciuum Ciuitatis Londoniarum pro communi consilio in Guyhalda eiusdem Ciuitatis comperecencium inter cetera in eodem consilio prolata assensum fuit et concordatum quod Johannes Pencriche armiger Maioris habeat et teneat domum sine mansionem supra portam inferiorem Guyhalde dicte Ciuitatis sitatam et quam Johannes Marchaunt nuper tenuit et habitauit habendam sibi quamdiu se bene habuerit in officia suo etc sine aliquo redditu inde reddendo etc.<sup>2</sup>

The twentieth day of February the fifth year of the reign of King Henry the Sixth after the Conquest. In a congregation of John Reynwell, Mayor, the Aldermen and an immense Commonalty of the Citizens of the City of London appearing as a Common Council in the Guildhall of the same City. Among other matters brought forward in the same Council it was assented to and agreed that John Pencriche the Mayor's esquire should have and hold the house or mansion situate above the lower gate of the Guildhall of the said City, and which John Marchaunt late held and inhabited; to have to him so long as he shall have behaved himself in his office, &c., without paying for it any rent &c.

Above the entrance were the effigies referred to, having been placed there for the purpose of architectural decoration. They were choice specimens of mediæval architecture, and deserve more than a passing notice. The first reference to them is, probably, to be found in the lines attributed to William Elderton, an attorney in the 16th century in the Sheriff's Court.

"Though most the images be pulled down,  
And none bethought remaine in Towne  
I am sure there be in London yet,  
Seven Images such, and in such a Place  
As few or more I think will Hit  
Yet every day they show their Face.  
And Thousands see them every Yeere  
But few I think can tell me where,  
Where Jesu Christ aloft doth stand  
Law and Learning on either hand;  
Discipline in the Diuel's necke  
And hard by her are three direct  
There Justice, Fortitude, and Temperance stand.  
Where find ye the like in all this Land."<sup>3</sup>

Stow's remark "at that time an attorney in the Sheriff's Court," serves to confirm, says the late Mr. Thoms, the received accounts of this teeming ballad monger, who is said

<sup>1</sup> In the Beaufoy Cabinet of Tradesmen's Tokens, in the possession of the Corporation, are these which have reference to the Gate, viz., that of—"THOMAS AILEY AT THE 3—Three Tuns: Vintners' Arms. Reverse—AT GUILDHALL GATE, 1665.—In field, T. E. A. ½." Another—"AT THE WHIT LYON.—Lion rampant in the field. Reverse—IN GUILDHALL GATE.—In the field, W. A. C." A third is that token of—"ROBERT PEETE, OVER AGAINST—Lion rampant, in field. Reverse—GUILDHALL GATE, 1699. HIS HALFPENNY."

<sup>2</sup> Letter Book, p. 500.

<sup>3</sup> Stow's "Survey." Strype's Edition, vol. i, book iii, p. 559.

in his time to have played many parts, and to have been, in addition to an attorney, an actor and a manager of a company of players. He obtained great notoriety by his ballads, one of which,

"The God of Love  
That sits above,"

is quoted by Benedict in "*Much Ado about Nothing*."<sup>1</sup>

In the above quaint description of these figures it may be noted that the author speaks of seven statues in connection with the Porch. In none of the illustrations which exist of the front elevation can be discerned more than six, viz., one on either side of the windows belonging to the room which was above the doorway, and two in niches harmonising with the others may be recognised in our engravings as placed on either side the entrance, thus making six in all. From the description given by Elderton it would seem that the missing figure is that of our Saviour; this would in all probability have been placed above the others, and probably above the Gothic window, over this may be noted the later work, put up by Sir Christopher Wren after the Great Fire. The two lower figures referred to as Law and Learning are those described by John Carter as Aaron and Moses, and the others, Discipline, Justice, Fortitude, and Temperance will be identified from published descriptions, and from the excellent drawing made by him at the demolition of the façade of the Porch in the year 1783. This well-executed sketch is preserved in the Gardner collection, and a fac-simile of it will be found among the present series of illustrations. There is also a re-production of a drawing by this artist of the front of the Porch taken at the same time. This shows the entrance with the buildings above and the eastern wing all in accordance with other illustrations. The left or western wing appears to have been just taken down when the drawing was made, for the artist mentions upon his sketch the fact of its being recently removed, and further notes that on the waterspouts of the building he observed the date 1669, the year when the Hall was repaired after the Fire of London. "The addition," he writes, "above the Gothic window is in the Roman style, a clumsy design raised on the fine Gothic work below, instead of which there should have been replaced woodwork in the manner of Westminster Hall." The removal of the left wing exposed two of the beautiful Gothic windows of the Hall behind, one of which it will be seen in the drawing is bricked or closed up. There were some alterations or additions made with respect to the Porch some two years after, for in an entry in the City Records it appears that on the 14th September, 1671, a report was presented to a meeting of the Court of Common Council "as to an addition to the Guildhall Porch for ornament and public use," together with an estimate of the costs which it was proposed should be incurred. It is recorded that the design and estimate was approved and that the matter was referred to Mr. Hooke and Dr. Wren, as the great architect appears to have been then styled, for their consideration.<sup>2</sup>

In 1785 a committee was appointed to consider the then state of the Irish Chamber. They reported that the Chamber, and room over the Porch and the staircase leading thereto were inadequate, and the Chamber itself was too small for the requirements of the increasing business to be transacted. In accordance, therefore, with the recommendations

<sup>1</sup> See also the note in p. 33 of the reprint of Kemp's *Nine Daies Wonder*, edited by the Rev. A. Dyce for the Camden Society.

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 76, fol. 248.





I think the entrance to the cathedral is different to the entrance  
 of the building, which is a different entrance. On the opposite side of the  
 the entrance is a different entrance. On the opposite side of the  
 above the entrance is a different entrance. On the opposite side of the  
 and in the foreground is a different entrance. On the opposite side of the  
 has a different entrance in the manner of the entrance of the cathedral.



made, Mr. George Dance, the architect, prepared a design for the purpose. It, however, transpired that the authorities of the Irish Society were of opinion that instead of improving the room over the Porch, the Irish Chamber should be enlarged and a new staircase constructed in accordance with another plan; from the records it appears that the latter suggestions were adopted. At this time there is reason to believe that the six statues were still in their original position, as it does not appear that they were taken down until some four years later, when they were placed in one of the cellars. In 1794 Mr. Alderman Boydell induced the Corporation to present them to Thomas Banks, the sculptor, who held them in great estimation as works of art. At his death, in 1809, they were purchased for £100 by Henry Bankes,<sup>1</sup> M.P., for Corfe Castle. Sir Richard Westmacott, R.A., writing, "Upon the progress of the art of Sculpture," in September, 1846, referred to them as being choice examples of the union of Italian with English feeling in Art towards the early part of the sixteenth century.

A singular misconception with regard to these figures appears to have arisen some years later, for in a letter addressed to the *Athenæum*, on the 10th November, 1846, the late Mr. Deputy Lott, F.S.A., directed public attention to the remarks recently made upon them by Sir Richard Westmacott. Mr. Lott explained that when the unsightly Grecian screen of wood work was removed from the dais of the Hall, giving place to the present oak panelling in accordance with the general architectural features of the building, there were placed on pedestals, within appropriate niches, three of the statues which had formerly adorned the Chapel. He then referred to the recorded existence of three others and asked for information as to what had become of them. It appeared, upon investigation, that Mr. Lott was mistaken in the identity of the figures, inasmuch as those referred to by the eminent sculptor were the six statues belonging to the Porch, whereas the three mentioned by Mr. Lott were really those belonging to the Chapel. The respective positions of these figures are shown on more than one of our engravings; it appeared upon enquiry that they were still in existence, for after their removal from the eastern end of the Hall, they were taken to one of the offices or yards in connection with the building. They have been recently carefully examined and a descriptive reference to them is included in the section of the present work more especially devoted to the consideration of the Chapel.

The Hall face of the Porch, viz., that on the inner side, corresponds as regards the doorway with the opposite north archway; but is of greater width, and filled in with glazed swing doors and fixed panelling at sides and head. The City Arms emblazoned on shields are inserted in the spandrels of the square head of the doorway. On the north side is a recessed archway, also in the fifth bay. The whole rises higher than the adjacent parapet of basement panelling. An arch springs from shafted jambs, and is enclosed in a square moulded spandrelled and traceried frame. In the spandrels are two heraldic Shields of Arms of Edward the Confessor and Henry IV. An enriched cornice with pateræ and embattled parapet, finishes the work in harmony with the adjacent panelling. This archway appears to be that drawn by R. B. Schnebbelie in the year 1815, and has been re-produced for the present work from the original

Interior of  
the Hall.

<sup>1</sup> "Journal of Archaeological Institute," vol. iii, p. 205.—"Athenæum," Oct. 14, Nov. 14-28, 1846.



drawing in the Gardner collection. This doorway the artist describes as the "Entrance to the different Courts of Law." It would seem that during recent alterations this masonry was re-erected and at one bay westward of the position given in the illustration. Eleven stone steps in this opening lead up by a corridor and loggia to a group of chambers, viz., the new Council Chamber, Aldermen's Court Room, the old Council Chamber, and some other of the municipal offices, &c. This was, also, the way of access to the Court of Exchequer, formerly the Lord Mayor's Court, the Chamber of London, &c.

The Hall is divided into eight bays or divisions on north and south walls by engaged piers, formed by a group of three clustered shafts or pillars, connected vertically by intermediate mouldings, the whole having moulded bases with stilted plinths, and surmounted by similar clustered capitals, with sculptured floriated enrichments, all in gilt. These shafted piers rise to the soffit of the main cornice. The wall surfaces on sides and west end under gallery, are overlaid with traceried and cusped panelling, generally in two divisions, with certain exceptions as openings, &c., and the west-end, comprising arches, mullions, transoms, and other sub-divisions and mouldings, with six fine sculptured corbels to three windows on the north wall. The lower compartments form a high dado or wall-basement, with elevated plinth, and surmounted with a cornice, enriched by an interesting series of City shields, heads, animals, and other pateræ, and crowded by an embattled cresting. In connection with this basement, a bench, or stone seat, cased with oak, is introduced. The whole is surmounted (on the sides) by a fine string-course and frieze, crowned with a cornice containing heraldic and other varied pateræ enrichments, emblazoned and gilt, above which are bold battlements and plain faces which complete the wall surface. This arrangement is cut up into divisions by the roof-ribs set upon the capitals, which are level with the bottom of the cornice. The frieze contains a series of mottoes, heraldic supporters, and Shields of Arms relating to England, the Corporation of London, and the twelve principal Livery Companies. The mottoes are in raised Gothic letters of a bold character; the shields centred between the letters in each bay are emblazoned, and the supporters, or other emblems, at each end of the mottoes, are also decorated, and the lettering gilt, with a background in vermillion. The whole forms a characteristic and appropriate band on each side. The alterations in connection with the new cornice and other improvements in the restoration of the roof were commenced in the month of May, 1864, in the mayoralty of the Right Honourable William Lawrence. The first stone of the cornice being laid by the chairman of the City Lands Committee on the 22nd June, in that year. On both sides of these panelled walls are sixteen two-light deeply recessed windows, having acute-pointed arched heads, filled with cusped tracery, each light divided by a transom. The lower divisions, also, have traceried and cusped heads. Four of these openings are of less height where the doorways and canopied cornice occur. Immediately under the great east window is a rich, arched canopy of stone, with cinque-foiled cusplings foliated, and enclosed in square-headed sunk spandrels; over which, completing the exterior, is a cornice with a series of pateræ, and finished with an embattled parapet. This work is returned, one bay on each side, thereby defining the dais; and is elevated 7 feet higher than the adjacent basement. At the two opposite angles a corbelling is placed to receive the groups of columns from which spring the outer arches



FIG. 1. B. Senneker, ENTRANCE to the interior Courts of LAW.

FROM THE ORIGINAL DRAWING IN THE COLLECTION OF J. E. GARDNER, ESQ., F.R.A.









Guildhall Interior.

of the great window, and the centre is further enriched by a similar projection. A beautiful and delicate work of arcading with columns and vaulting, arches with cinque-foiled cusplings, foliated, and a profusion of carved bosses, enrich the recessed surfaces, &c., sunk behind this over-hanging tabernacled cornice, partially obscured for want of decorative assistance to lighten up the shadows. At the western end there is a simple moulded cornice across the Hall and running beneath the window.

At each end of the Hall, occupying the entire width, is a magnificent window, both are similar as regards design generally, but somewhat varied in details. They are filled with stained glass, which produces rich and decorative effect, but is so toned that the admission of light is not sensibly obscured, but only softened. The great hood-mouldings spring from the caps of clustered pillars: at the eastern end these are dwarf, the bases being set upon the cornice, but at the western end they rise from the pavement similar to the other pillars of the Hall. There are in each window, two massive mullions of the whole height from sill to archivolt, separating the centre from the side lights, with additional mouldings connected with them on each side. The principal mouldings of these mullions and jambs are finished on to the sill with bases. The centre is divided into five lights by minor mullions, and into two tiers vertically by transoms, and the side lights are double. The heads are richly filled with arches and cusped tracery, and the sub-divisions are similarly treated. Each window has a Shield of Arms of Edward the Confessor placed in the apex of the arch mouldings. On the tracery of the east windows, right and left in the angles next the mullions, are two shields charged with heraldic devices. On the west window are also two escutcheons, bearing the Arms of the Plantagenet and Lancastrian kings. That on the right hand (Plantagenet) *gu.* three lions passant guardant in pale *or*; on the left (Lancastrian) 1st and 4th semé of *fleurs-de-lis* over their *azure* field (France), 2nd and 3rd *gu.* three lions passant guardant in pale *or*. Over these windows in the gables are openings for the further lighting of the upper space. On each side of the east window, occupying and decorating the space between the shafts and the window-jambs, is a small and interesting canopied niche or tabernacle of somewhat like character in its details to the cornice. It contains a sunk three-panelled pedestal with moulded plinth and capping for a statue, and is covered with a three-sided moulded canopy with tre-foiled cusped tracery, which is completed with a tre-foiled cresting; especially noticeable on account of its peculiar finials and foreign treatment. The east end of the Hall is fitted with a raised dais or platform. This is ascended by three steps. It is appropriated for holding the Court of Hustings. Here also are holden the meetings of the Common Hall for the election of Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, Chamberlain, &c., and other public meetings called by the Lord Mayor. The wall at back and one bay on each side, are lined with very rich and elaborate oak panelling, finished with a coved and groined canopy, all enriched with moulded and carved work. Three canopied niches with pedestals for statues are introduced, in position corresponding with the corbellings of the stone cornice. A doorway in the south bay, concealed in the panelling, gives access to a vestibule in connection with the Library buildings, and, also, to the corridor attached to the porch at Guildhall Yard. Another similar opening (north) connects the Hall with the new Council Chamber, when such may be required on important occasions. In the third bay (north) is a door and panelling, now disused, fitted into the basement, which until recently provided access to the Crypt and Offices, and by a small

doorway in the south panelling the Crypt is now accessible, for convenience, through a window, the principal approach thereto, as before mentioned, having been stopped by the new Council Chamber. At the west end, through the two openings in the screen, access is provided to the Law Courts and other chambers, &c., and by stairs to the gallery turrets, and also to the Crypt. The small centre doorway is reputed to be ancient.

The Screen is formed of open panels, on a solid base, and the doorway openings. This open-work is all finished with arched heads and mouldings, and divided by pillars, with caps and bases, which carry the cantilevers, &c. These support a pierced ornamental parapet or balcony-front, with a projecting centre, with moulded and embattled strings and capping, and carried by corbelling and bracketing, all of oak.

The floor is paved principally with a white stone, arranged in panels of large dimensions. These are divided by bands of tiles, and the whole connected by borders of black and buff tiles, and completed outside with similar white stone pavements. The panels are enriched with incised quatre-foils and ornamental figures. There are Shields of Arms of England, the City of London, Edward the Confessor, of foreign nations and monarchs, and of different towns and cities, &c., all filled in with lead. The official Standard of length may be observed marked on brass plates across the floor. Brass ornamental perforated gratings are inserted for the introduction of heated air into the building.

Coronæ suspended from the roof in the bays between the principals provide for the artificial illumination of the Hall. On extraordinary occasions the electric light has been introduced with good effect. A powerful sun-burner is fixed in "the lantern" of the flèche, for further illumination and ventilation.

The size of the Large Hall will be better understood by comparison with similar large buildings, both ancient and modern, existing here and on the Continent. One of the earliest of which we have any accurate measurements is probably that in the Baths of Diocletian at Rome, now the Church of S. Maria degli Angeli; this is upwards of 300 feet in length; but with this exception, and that of the Basilica at Silchester, a perusal of the following list will show that the magnificent Hall at Westminster takes the precedence in length, and, in height, surpasses all.

	Length. Ft.	Width. Ft.	Height. Ft.
Hall in the Baths of Diocletian, now the Church of S. Maria degli Angeli, Rome . . . . .	308	74	84
Basilica, Remains of Roman City at Silchester . . . . .	268	60	—
Westminster Hall . . . . .	238	67½	90
Palazzo della Ragione, Padua . . . . .	240	80	80
Christ Hospital, London . . . . .	187	51	47
Palazzo Vecchio, Florence . . . . .	184	73	70
Hatfield Hall, Durham . . . . .	180	50	—
St. George's Hall, Liverpool . . . . .	170	74	83
Palazzo del Podesta, Bologna . . . . .	170	46	—
Palazzo della Ragione, Vicenza . . . . .	169	69	—
Guildhall, London . . . . .	152	49½	89
Town Hall, Birmingham . . . . .	140	65	65







	Length. Ft.	Width. Ft.	Height. Ft.
Euston Square Terminus . . . . .	130	62	64
Lincoln's Inn . . . . .	120	45	62
Christ Church, Oxford . . . . .	115	40	50
Hampton Court . . . . .	106	40	60
Trinity Hall, Cambridge . . . . .	102	43	50
Eltham Palace . . . . .	101	36	54
Middle Temple . . . . .	100	40	50
Manchester Assize Courts, Great Hall . . . . .	100	48½	75
Freemasons' Hall . . . . .	96	38	37
Lambeth Palace . . . . .	93	38	—
Inner Temple . . . . .	92	40	56
New Hall, Borcham, Essex . . . . .	90	50	40
Gray's Inn . . . . .	70	35	47

The annexed illustration entitled, "The Inside of Guildhall, Cheapside, London," is copied from an original print in the Gardner collection. It closely resembles an engraving which appeared in one of the early London magazines, entitled "Inside of Guildhall," and which has, in addition to the plate, the following descriptive letterpress. This is interesting, as it faithfully describes the appearance of the interior at the time, and accords with the account published in Hatton's<sup>1</sup> "New View of London" in the year 1708 :—

"This Hall is very spacious and stately, suited to the greatness and magnificence of the City. It is adorn'd with several standards and banners, &c., taken at the battle of Ramillies in 1706. The intercolumns are embellished with the pictures of 18 Judges who determined the difference between Landlord and Tenant in rebuilding the City. At ye east end are ye Portraits of K. William, Q. Mary, Q. Anne and K. George. Over the steps going into the Mayor's Court, at some height, stand two Giants of Monstrous height and bigness, the one holding a Pole Ax, the other a Halbert. Upon the Capital of the Pillars against the walls are the Royal Arms, the Arms of the City and of the Twelve Companies, &c. This spacious receptacle for the Citizens being damaged by the Great Fire was afterwards repaired at the expence of £2,500."

It will be observed, on examination of the engraving, that it belongs to a time prior to the erection of any of the marble monuments which are now placed in the various bays, and to one when a series of portraits adorned the walls of the Great Hall, when there was a gallery over the door opposite to the Porch, and where Gog and Magog, with the old clock between them, guarded the entrance leading to the Mayor's Court. The portraits of the Judges which appear upon the walls, are those of the distinguished men who were associated with the Corporation in adjusting the various difficulties which must have been of no little magnitude, with regard to property held by the citizens at the time of the Great Fire of 1666. The Corporation desired to put on lasting record its sense of the labour and trouble undertaken by the Judges of the day ; and, accordingly, in the year 1670, the Court resolved, on the 19th April, that "in contemplation of the favour and kindness of the Right Honourable Sir H. Bridgman, Lord Chancellor and Keeper of the Great Seal of England, the Justices of the King's Bench and Common Pleas, and Barons of the Exchequer, to the state of the City in and about, the Act of Parliament, and in consideration of its instituting a Judicature for determining of discussions between landlord and tenant, doth think fit, and order that their pictures be taken by a skilful hand, and be kept in some public place of the City for a grateful memorial of their good offices."<sup>2</sup> There

Portraits of  
the Judges.

<sup>1</sup> Hatton's "New View of London," edit. 1708, p. 608.

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 75, fol. 160b.

were no less than twenty-two of the Judges of the time who were constantly occupied in adjusting and determining the various disputes and claims which were put forth from day to day. We are informed by Walpole, in his interesting "Anecdotes of Painting,"<sup>1</sup> that it was intended that no less a celebrity than Sir Peter Lely was to be entrusted with the execution of their portraits. This distinguished artist was, however, too independent or too deeply occupied to take the trouble of waiting upon the Judges at their respective chambers for the purpose: so the Corporation had to look elsewhere. Accordingly, there was a Committee appointed on the 27th September, 1670, for the purpose of considering the various tenders which were invited to be sent in.<sup>2</sup> The result was that, of the various "skilful masters" who competed for the work, one Michael Wright was selected, and most of the series were painted by him, a payment being made from the funds of the Corporation of £36 for each of the portraits. The Arms and inscriptions on the several frames were painted by his brother, Jeremiah Wright. It was at this time that the lower part of the windows of the Hall were made up and so altered as to provide for the accommodation of the pictures.<sup>3</sup> In the year 1672 they had all to be repaired, an order being given on the 29th August of that year to the effect "that the backe syd of the Pictures in the Great Hall having been set upon unseasoned wood, which is now somewhat shrunke, doe in that regard want some small reparacon."<sup>4</sup> Some time after it had been decided that this interesting series of portraits should be taken, it was also determined that those of the King and H.R.H. the Duke of York should be also obtained and placed in the Hall with the others, as some remembrance of the Royal favours and encouragements to the work of re-building the City.<sup>5</sup> It is in relation to the painting of the foregoing that Sir Peter Lely is associated with the pictures, for although unwilling to undertake the portraits of the judges he appears to have executed those of the King and the Duke of York, for it is recorded that the same Committee who were appointed in September, 1670, agreed to pay the sum of £100 for the two pictures.<sup>6</sup>

In the year 1682 some malicious individual thought fit to injure the portrait which had been secured of the Duke of York. The reason does not appear, but the incident attracted the attention of Antony Wood, the Oxford antiquary, who records it in his diary for that year:—"1682, January 21.—About the middle of Jan. some phanaticall person cutt ye leggs of ye Duke of Yorks picture that hangs in ye Gildhall, London, which being looked upon as a great scandall, ye Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen made a decree that whosoever should bring ye man that did it, or tell, should have £500 for his paines." In retaliation, King William's picture suffered a like injury. Some seven years later the same diarist records that on the 21st November, 1689—"Some malevolent people have lately defaced King Williams picture in the Guildhall, his head, crowne, and scepter, in requital for what was done to the picture of ye Duke of York by cutting off his legs. The regalia were cut off, viz., crowne, globe and scepter, &c." A similar reward was offered for the discovery of the offender, as on the previous occasion. In 1690 it appears that one "John Fletcher, a Gardiner in Brick Lane, was committed to Newgate for bragging at Hartford that he did mangle and cut King Williams picture in Guildhall." Whether the said Fletcher was the actual offender or not does not appear to be

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 3, fol. 40.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., 76, fol. 222.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., 75, fol. 316b.

<sup>4</sup> Repertory, 75, fol. 313.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., 3, fol. 229.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., 77, fol. 42.



authenticated. There was, also, in the Hall at one time a portrait of Mary, wife of William III, and painted by Van Vaart. This, with the portrait of the King, and others of George III and Queen Charlotte were at the time of the changes in 1815, removed to the Mansion House. The following is a list of the individuals whose portraits were upon the walls of the Hall at the time our illustration of the interior was engraved, the number being complete, with the exception of four which were taken from the collection and deposited in the Mayor's Court, viz., Sir Samuel Browne, Sir John Kelynge, Sir Edward Atkyns and Sir William Wyndham. After their removal, the series were distributed between the two Courts of Queen's Bench and that of Common Pleas. They had been previously put into substantial repair:—Sir Orlando Bridgman, Knt. and Bart., Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and Keeper of the Great Seal, ob. 1674; Sir Edward Atkyns, Knt., a Baron of the Exchequer, ob. 1669; Sir Thomas Twysden, Knt. and Bart., a Justice of the King's Bench, ob. 1683; Sir Christopher Turnor, Knt., a Baron of the Exchequer, ob. 1676; Sir Thomas Tyrrell, Knt., a Justice of the Common Pleas, ob. 1672; Sir Samuel Brown, Knt., a Justice of the Common Pleas, ob. 1668; Sir Matthew Hale, Knt., Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, ob. 1676; Sir Wadham Wyndham, Knt., a Justice of the King's Bench, ob. 1668; Sir John Kelynge, Knt., Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, ob. 1671; Sir John Archer, Knt., a Justice of the Common Pleas, ob. 1682; Sir Richard Rainsford, Knt., Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, ob. 1679; Sir William Morton, a Justice of the King's Bench, ob. 1672; Sir William Wylde, Knt. and Bart., a Justice of the King's Bench, ob. 1679; Sir John Vaughan, Knt., Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, ob. 1674; Sir Timothy Littleton, Knt., a Baron of the Exchequer, ob. 1679; Sir Hugh Wyndham, Knt., a Justice of the Common Pleas, ob. 1684; Sir Edward Turnor, Knt., Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, ob. 1676; Sir Edward Thurland, Knt., a Baron of the Exchequer, ob. 1682; Sir Robert Atkyns, K.B., Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer (and Speaker of the House of Lords), ob. 1710; Sir William Ellys, Knt., a Justice of the Common Pleas, ob. 1680; Sir Francis North (Baron of Guildford), Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, ob. 1685; Sir Heneage Finch, Earl of Nottingham and Lord Chancellor, ob. 1682.

There can be also discerned just before the line of the roof, as depicted in the engraving, a series of flags and banners suspended on the walls, both upon the north and upon the south sides. These were presented to the City by Queen Anne, in the year 1706, in order to commemorate the victories achieved by the Duke of Marlborough over the French and Bavarian forces at the battle of Ramilles, in Flanders. The presentation consisted of no less than 26 standards and 63 colours, but space could be only found in the Hall for 46 of the latter and 19 standards, together with a trophy which had belonged to the Elector of Bavaria, and which is said to have been very rich and costly. This was placed above the portrait of Queen Anne, which at this time was between those of William and Mary at the east end of the Hall. It may be noted that the Royal Arms are shown, above the wooden screen which marks the division between the Dais, or platform, and the main body of the building. In other views of the interior, included in the present work, the monumental statuary may be seen for the first time, the illustrations representing the position of the respective groups, prior to when they were lowered to their present level a few years since. The annexed engravings represent the interior of the Hall as prepared for the reception of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, upon the occasion of her Coronation in the year 1837, as well

Statuary.

as in the year 1851, when she honoured the Corporation with her presence at a State Ball, given to commemorate the opening of the Great Exhibition; and in them may be noted the situation of the monuments which are in the various bays or compartments into which the building is divided upon the north side. Of these memorials one has been selected for illustration. It is typical of the others, all having been so designed by the different artists employed as to be in harmony and unison with each other. The group selected is that which commemorates the celebrated William Beckford, Esq., Lord Mayor in the years 1763 and 1770, and whose death occurred during his tenure of office in the latter year. This civic magnate was member of the family of the Beckfords of Fonthill, who, it is believed, acquired the wealth which they possessed in the pursuit of the West Indian trade.<sup>1</sup> "Peter Beckford, Speaker of the House of Assembly, in Jamaica, died in the year 1735, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Peter, who dying in 1737 was succeeded by the brother, William Beckford, afterwards M.P. for the City of London," and the subject of the present notice. On his death he is said to have left his only son property worth £100,000 a-year. It is recorded that he was a great opponent of the Court, and an intimate friend of the Earl of Chatham, who was his son's godfather; but he is now chiefly remembered by the address which he was reported to have made to George III before the assembled Court, and it is this incident in his career that is illustrated by the monument in Guildhall. He was a patriotic and able man, and the erection of the memorial to his honour is a sufficient illustration of the regard and respect in which he was held by his fellow citizens, but it is said that, so far as the delivery of this celebrated speech is concerned, he was not even the author of it. John Horne Tooke is credited therewith, and it is well known that he claimed the composition as his own within a month after Beckford died. The necessity for the oration, by whomever composed, had been brought about by the strong and dictatorial conduct pursued by the Government of the day, in connection with the dispute and the position assumed by the celebrated Wilkes as to the rights in connection with elections in the county of Middlesex. The Mayor was invited to attend upon the King and express the views of the citizens upon the matters in question. A "remonstrance," as it is termed, was voted at Guildhall in the month of May, 1770, and he is in the attitude of expressing the wishes and opinions of his colleagues to George III. The memorial, which is by no means inartistic, and cost £1,300, was executed by a Mr. Moore, a sculptor, who, though a native of Hanover, was albeit a Londoner, for he resided and died at Wells-street, Oxford-street. Pennant, Malcolm, and others have attributed the work to Bacon, but inaccurately;<sup>2</sup> there were several designs for the monument, one by a Mr. Nathaniel Smith, a pupil of Roubiliac, and another by Augustine Carlini, of which a large and beautiful engraving is in existence by the well-known and able artist Bartolozzi. Lord Mayor Beckford married a granddaughter of the Duke of Abercorn. The Duke of Hamilton and the Duke of Newcastle are descendants through his son, the celebrated William Beckford, of Fonthill—who, at one time, was Alderman of Billingsgate. The monument was formerly in an elevated and conspicuous position at the west end of the Hall, but at the time when so many alterations were in progress, it was taken down, giving place to a timepiece or dial, and then placed in the position

<sup>1</sup> *Vide* a note entitled "William Beckford, Lord Mayor of London," in *Notes and Queries*, May 30, 1886, p. 424, by John Beckford, M.A.

<sup>2</sup> "Gentleman's Magazine," vol. lxxxix, part i, p. 43.







which it has occupied to the present time. Its appearance in relation to the Hall prior to the removal is well illustrated in the engraving connected with the Drawing of the State Lotteries which appears in another section of the present work.

The monument bears the following inscription : —

SPEECH TO HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE III.

On the 23rd of May, 1770.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

Will your Majesty be pleased so far to condescend as to permit the Mayor of your loyal City of London to declare, in your Royal Presence, on behalf of his fellow Citizens, how much the bare apprehension of your Majesty's displeasure would, at all times affect their minds; the declaration of that displeasure has already filled them with inexpressible anxiety, and with the deepest affliction. Permit me, Sire, to assure your Majesty, that your Majesty has not in all your Dominions any subjects more faithful, more dutiful, or more affectionate to your Majesty's Person and Family, or more ready to sacrifice their lives and fortunes in the maintenance of the true honour and dignity of your Crown.

We do therefore, with the greatest humility and submission, most earnestly supplicate your Majesty, that you will not dismiss us from your presence, without expressing a more favourable opinion of your faithful Citizens, and without some comfort, without some prospect at least of redress.

Permit me, Sire, farther to observe, that whosoever has already dared, or shall hereafter endeavour, by false insinuations and suggestions, to alienate your Majesty's affections from your loyal Subjects in general, and from the City of London in particular, and to withdraw your confidence in and regard for your People, is an enemy to your Majesty's Person and Family, a violator of the public peace, and a betrayer of our happy Constitution, as it was established at the glorious Revolution.

In the second bay or division is placed a memorial in commemoration of the celebrated William Pitt, Earl of Chatham. This minister, statesman, and orator, is represented by the artist with all his characteristic sternness. He is attired in classic costume, is standing upon a rock, with his left hand on the rudder or helm of State, and his right reclining on an allegorical figure of Commerce introduced by the City of London, and represented by a mural-crowned female figure. Britannia is seen reposing upon a lion, and infantile figures, emblematical of the four quarters of the globe, are pouring forth into her lap treasures from the Cornucopia of Plenty. Figures of anchors, sails, and masts with ropes and other details connected with navigation, make up the background of the composition.

The group is from the hands of John Bacon, R.A., a sculptor in 1782, and the cost to the Corporation of the memorial is stated to have been no less than £3,421. 4s. This amount doubtless included the preparation of the inscription, pedestal, &c. The inscription is said to have been composed by the celebrated Edmund Burke.

In grateful acknowledgment to the Supreme Disposer of Events; who intending to advance this Nation, for such time as to his Wisdom seem'd good, to an high pitch of prosperity and glory; by unanimity at home; by confidence and reputation abroad; by alliances wisely chosen and faithfully observed; by colonies united and protected; by decisive victories by sea and land; by conquests made by arms and generosity in every part of the globe; by commerce, for the first time united with, and made to flourish by war; was pleased to rise up as a principal instrument in this memorable work

WILLIAM PITT.

The Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, mindful of the benefits which the City of London received in her ample share in the general prosperity, have erected to the memory of this eminent Statesman and powerful Orator, this Monument in her Guildhall; that her Citizens may never meet for the transaction of their affairs without

being reminded that the means by which Providence raises a nation to greatness are the virtues infused into great men; and that to withhold from those virtues, either of the living or the dead, the tribute of esteem and veneration, is to deny to themselves the means of happiness and honour.

This distinguished person, for the services rendered to King George the Second and to King George the Third, was created

EARL OF CHATHAM.

The British Nation honoured his memory with a public Funeral, and a public Monument amongst her illustrious men in Westminster Abbey.

In the fourth compartment, on the north side, is placed the monument erected by the Corporation to the memory of Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington. It is well known that the illustrious general passed half his life in peace, and half in war. In the Memorial, at Guildhall, this view is taken for illustration. Peace, seated at the Duke's right hand, extends a civic wreath, and looks up gratefully towards him; War, seated at his left, leaning on his sheathed sword, and grasping a victor's wreath, rests from his labours. The Duke, erect between the two, rests his left hand on his field marshal's baton, and in his right holds the Peace of 1815; his regard is towards Peace. He is represented in his usual costume, with the addition of the Ribbon of the Garter, the Star of the Bath, the Waterloo medal, and a military cloak. The age chosen for the statue is between fifty and sixty, the Duke having then, after the termination of his active military career, passed some years in the acts of peace. Each of these three figures is 8 feet 6 inches in stature. The division of subject is continued ornamentally below. Beneath the figure of War is a shield, with the crest and armorial motto of the Duke; viz., the lion's head and "*Virtutis fortuna comes.*" Beneath the figure of Peace is a similar shield, with a dove bearing an olive branch, and the motto (from the *Æneid*) "*Pacis imponere morem,*" indicating the Duke's powers of negotiation and administration. Between these shields, in front, is represented, in relief, the last charge at Waterloo (the action dividing a long war from a European peace of thirty-eight years). On the upper pedestal, wreathed with laurel, appear the words, WISDOM, DUTY, HONOUR; and Wellington on the summit of the entablature, which forms the background of the group, so as to pair with that of Nelson, on the monument to which that of Wellington is a pendant in situation, and in some degree in treatment. The figures, shields, and relief are in Carrara marble, as is also the masonry of the monument itself. This Memorial to the Duke was executed by John Bell, R.A., at an expense to the Corporation of £4,966. 10s.<sup>1</sup>

In the sixth division of the Hall, and upon the same side is a monument in commemoration of Admiral Lord Nelson.<sup>2</sup> The pyramid, on the background, is supposed to be the tomb of the immortal hero decorated with naval trophies, the fruit of his victories; while the female figure in the centre (personating the City of London), in grateful remembrance of the signal services he rendered to this country, perpetuates the memory of his great actions to posterity, and finishes with admiration the record of his last glorious achievement off Trafalgar. Britannia, on the left, supported by a Lion (the symbol of unshaken courage) is pensively musing over the portrait of the conqueror, and in silent

<sup>1</sup> *Vide* Catalogue of Sculpture, Paintings, and Engravings, &c., compiled by W. H. Overall, F.S.A., Librarian, printed for the use of the Members of the Corporation in the year 1867, p. 29.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 28, 29.

grief deplores her loss. The recumbent figure in the foreground, representing Neptune, roused by the fame of his heroic actions, participates in Britannia's sorrow and regret for her hero's fate. The naval action in front of the pedestal, exhibits the situation of the fleet towards the close of the battle, when Nelson was mortally wounded by a shot from the main-top of a French seventy-four, with which ship the Victory appears to be closely engaged. In the niches, two British seamen, with implements of war and navigation, hear with deep concern of the fate of their beloved commander. The Memorial, the work of the sculptor James Smith, was executed for the Corporation at an expense of £4,442. 7s. 4d. In his criticism of this monument, Mr. Nichols well remarks "that it is much to be regretted that there is not a more prominent representation of Nelson."

The inscription is from the pen of the Right Hon. Richard Brinsley Sheridan:—

TO HORATIO VISCOUNT AND BARON NELSON,  
Vice-Admiral of the White,  
and Knight of the most Honourable Order of the Bath.

A man amongst the few, who appear at different periods to have been created to promote the grandeur, and add to the security of, Nations:—inciting by their high example their fellow-mortals, through all succeeding times, to pursue the course that leads to the exaltation of our imperfect nature.

PROVIDENCE, that implanted in Nelson's breast an ardent passion for deserved renown, as bounteously endowed him with the transcendent talents necessary to the great purposes he was destined to accomplish.

At an early period of life he entered into the Naval service of his country; and early were the instances which marked the fearless nature and daring enterprize of his character; uniting to the loftiest spirit, and the justest title to self-confidence, a strict and humble obedience to the sovereign rule of discipline and subordination. Rising by due gradation to command, he infused into the bosoms of those he led the valorous ardour and enthusiastic zeal for the service of his King and Country, which animated his own; and while he acquired the love of all by the sweetness and moderation of his temper, he inspired a universal confidence in the never-failing resources of his capacious mind. It will be for History to relate the many great exploits, through which, solicitous of peril and regardless of wounds, he became the glory of his profession; but it belongs to this brief record of his illustrious career to say, that he commanded and conquered at the Battles of the Nile and Copenhagen;—Victories never before equalled, yet afterwards surpassed by his own last achievement the Battle of Trafalgar, fought on the 21st of October, in the year 1805.

On that day, before the conclusion of the action, he fell mortally wounded; but the sources of life and sense failed not, until it was known to him, that, the destruction of the enemy being completed, the Glory of his Country and his own, had attained their summit: then laying his hand on his brave heart, with a look of exalted resignation to the will of the Supreme Disposer of the Fate of Man and Nations, he expired.

The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of London have caused this Monument to be erected; not in the presumptuous hope of sustaining the departed Hero's memory, but to manifest their estimation of the Man, and their admiration of his Deeds. This testimony of their Gratitude, they trust, will remain as long as their own renowned City shall exist. The period to NELSON'S Fame can only be the End of Time.

Upon the south side of the Hall, and in the second compartment, is erected the Memorial to the Right Hon. William Pitt, son of the Earl of Chatham. The massy substance on which the figures in this composition are placed is intended to represent the Island of Great Britain and the surrounding waves. On an elevation in the centre, Mr. Pitt appears in his robes as Chancellor of the Exchequer. Below him, on an intermediate foreground, two statues characterise his abilities; Apollo on his right, impersonating Eloquence and Learning; Mercury on his left, as the representative of Commerce and the Patron of Policy. The lower part of the monument is occupied by a figure of Britannia, seated triumphantly on a sea-horse; in her left hand is the usual emblem of naval power, and her right

grasps a thunderbolt. The Memorial was executed for the Corporation by J. G. Bubb in 1813 at an expense of £4,078. 17s. 3d.

The inscription was written by the Right Hon. George Canning :—

WILLIAM PITT

SON OF WILLIAM PITT Earl of Chatham,

Inheriting the genius, and formed by the precepts of his father,  
Devoted himself from his early years to the service of the State.  
Called to the chief conduct of the Administration, after the close of a disastrous war,  
He repaired the exhausted Revenues, he revived and invigorated  
the Commerce and Prosperity of the Country ;  
And he had re-established the Publick Credit on deep and sure foundations ;  
when a new War was kindled in Europe, more formidable than any preceding War  
from the peculiar character of its dangers.  
To resist the arms of France, which were directed against the  
independence of every Government and People,  
To animate other Nations by the example of Great Britain,  
To check the contagion of opinions which tended to dissolve the frame of civil society,  
To array the loyal, the sober-minded and the good in defence of  
the venerable Constitution of the British Monarchy,  
were the duties which, at that awful crisis, devolved upon the British Minister,  
and which he discharged with transcendent zeal, intrepidity and perseverance :  
He upheld the National Honour abroad ;  
He maintained at home the blessings of Order and of true Liberty ;  
And, in the midst of difficulties and perils,  
He united and consolidated the strength, power and resources of the Empire.

For these high purposes,  
He was gifted by Divine Providence with endowments,  
rare in their separate excellence ; wonderful in their combination :  
Judgment ; imagination ; memory ; wit ; force and acuteness of reasoning ;  
Eloquence, copious and accurate, commanding and persuasive,  
and suited from its splendour to the dignity of his mind  
and to the authority of his station ;  
A lofty spirit ; a mild and ingenious temper.  
Warm and steadfast in friendship, towards enemies he was forbearing and forgiving.  
His industry was not relaxed by confidence in his great abilities ;  
His indulgence to others was not abated by the consciousness of his own superiority.  
His ambition was pure from all selfish motives :  
The love of power and the passion of fame were in him  
subordinate to views of publick utility ;  
Dispensing for near twenty years the favours of the Crown,  
He lived without ostentation ; and he died poor.

A grateful Nation

Decreed to him those funeral honours  
which are reserved for eminent and extraordinary men.

THIS MONUMENT

Is erected by the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council,  
to record the reverent and affectionate regret  
with which the City of London cherishes his memory ;  
And to hold out to the imitation of posterity  
those principles of publick and private virtue,  
which ensure to nations a solid greatness,  
and to individuals an imperishable name.



If the Aldermen and civic magnates of the Middle Ages vied with each other in contributing to the enrichment of the interior of Guildhall by donations towards the paving of the floor and the glazing of the windows, their successors have in the present day most creditably followed their example. We have before seen how the various subjects depicted upon the ancient windows were thought to lead to idolatry and superstition, and in consequence were ruthlessly destroyed. From that time until within a comparatively recent period the windows were all of plain glass, but now, with but one exception, after an interval of some two centuries, they are again filled with stained or painted glass, the subjects represented being in no way significant as in the former case of the religious sentiments of the time, but a far more preferable selection, viz., a series of memorials for the most part of historical events connected with the early history of the City, and others commemorative of some of the many acts of generosity and benevolence for which the Corporation and its members will be gratefully remembered for all time.

Windows.

The fine window above the hustings at the east end of the Hall is a striking illustration of this. In the year 1870 the operatives of Lancashire and the other cotton districts presented, by the aid of subscriptions collected from a wide area, this beautiful window to the Corporation. It was given as a grateful acknowledgment of the timely assistance which had been rendered in the hour of need. The subjects represented by the artists, Messrs. Clayton and Bell, are chiefly historical and immediately associated with the early history of London. The couplet division upon the north side contains figures of Lancastrian worthies. In the corresponding division upon the south are introduced some of the celebrities of the City. The subject of the lower tier of the central portion of the window illustrates the re-building of London by Alfred the Great, and that of the upper tier the well-known grant of the first Charter to the citizens by William the Conqueror. In the side division on the north side are full length portraits of Sir Richard Whittington and Sir Thomas Gresham; on the south, John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, and Sir Thomas Stanley. The proper heraldic representations are introduced in the traceried openings. In the main portion of the window the Arms selected are those borne by the twelve great Companies. At the base of the window appears the following inscription: "The Grateful Memorial of the Operatives of Lancashire and the Cotton Manufacturing Districts to the Mansion House Relief Committee who, as Almoners of a World's benevolence, distributed to them more than £500,000 during the Cotton Famine, 1862-5,—namely, William Cubitt, Lord Mayor; William James Richmond Cotton, Charles Barber, William Morley, John Armitage, Groom Howes, Francis Lycett, and Stauros Dilberoglue; with Lord Mayors William Anderson Rose, William Lawrence, Warren Stormes Hale; and Joseph Gibbs, Secretary."

In the first window upon the south side, and at this end of the Hall, is represented the restoration of the City Charter in the year 1688, in one light are portrayed the Lord Mayor, Sword and Mace bearers, and a Man at Arms; in the other light, the Lord Chancellor, Purse Bearer, Courtiers, and a Man at Arms; in the tracery are the Armorial Bearings of the late Mr. Deputy Harris and those of the Saddlers' Company. This window was given by Mr. Henry Harris, Deputy of the Ward of Lime Street, and Master of the Saddlers' Company in the year 1874.

In the two upper lights of the second window appears a representation of Edward VI passing to Westminster on the occasion of his coronation on the 19th February, 1547.

The spectators are the Master and Liverymen of the Saddlers' Company in their gowns, and various officers of the Court. The Hall is likewise shown, and, in the background, old Cheapside. The horse, the cognizance of the Company, is a conspicuous feature in the centre of the design. In the lower lights is an illustration of the reception by Sir Henry Picard, Lord Mayor of London, 1363, of Five Kings on their landing at Queenhithe, viz.: — Edward III of England, David of Scotland, John of France, Magnus II of Denmark, and the King of Cyprus. The window was presented to the Corporation by Mr. Archibald MacDougall, Deputy, member of the Saddlers' Company. The Arms of the donor, together with those of his Company, appear in the tracery above the upper portions of the window.

The next window is situated above the monument of Mr. Alderman Beckford. The subject treated of is the interesting story of Rahere's dream, and the vision to him of St. Bartholomew; in the lower lights is seen the founding of the Church and Hospital of Bartholomew the Great, in Smithfield, in the year 1102. In the tracery are figures of Angels bearing Shields with the Arms of Mr. Alderman Farnecomb, Lord Mayor in 1849, and Mr. Alderman Stone, Lord Mayor in 1874. At the base the following inscription:—"Presented on behalf of the Ward of Bassishaw, by David Henry Stone, Esq., Alderman of that Ward, 1866."

The next was presented by the Fishmongers' Company, and the subject chosen is one intimately associated with their history and traditions. In the upper lights appears an illustration of the death of Wat Tyler, and in the lower the knighting, by Richard II, of Sir William Walworth, at that time Mayor and a former Prime Warden of the Fishmongers' Company.

The window over the entrance door contains a figure representing Alderman Sir John Crosby, who represented the City in Parliament in 1461, elected Warden of his Company in the same year, and served the office of Sheriff in 1470, in this year he erected the magnificent mansion in Bishopsgate which still retains his name. The other figure is that of Sir John Cutler, who served the office of Master four times, and was a great benefactor to the Guild. This was presented by the Grocers' Company.

The one upon the south side was put up in commemoration of the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to the City upon the return of His Royal Highness from India, in the year 1876. It is the gift of Mr. W. J. R. Cotton, Alderman of Line Street Ward, Lord Mayor in 1875; and Member of Parliament for the City of London, in the year 1877.

The second window from the west end of the Hall is of somewhat exceptional interest, from the association which it possesses with the great change in the general sentiments of the country that has in our time taken place with respect to a more extended toleration for that diversity of opinion which must always exist in matters of religion. We have before referred to the persecution of the Jews at certain early stages of our history, and of their banishment from these realms just six centuries ago. It has been reserved for those now living to witness the great revulsion of feeling which has taken place as regards the civil and political claims of those of our fellow countrymen who profess and still cling to

the Jewish faith; to witness the recognition of such claims, and moreover to be able to congratulate those members of the community who have been successful in at last obtaining positions of distinction, and for worthily fulfilling, as they have done, the numerous important public duties with which they have been entrusted. In the window before us it may be noted that the subject on the left hand represents the Jews being banished from this country by Edward I. On the right hand is shown the Jews petitioning Cromwell to be allowed to return, in the year 1656. The lower compartments represent the swearing-in of Sir David Salomons, Bart., Citizen and Cooper, as Lord Mayor in 1855. He was the first of the Jewish faith who served the office of Sheriff of London, being chosen in 1835, and he was subsequently elected M.P. for Greenwich. Sir David, in order to gratefully acknowledge the impulse given to the cause of religious liberty by the Corporation of London, also to commemorate the removal by Parliament of all obstacles to persons professing the Jewish religion from holding civil and public offices, presented this window in 1869.

The next window, viz., that at the south-west angle of the Hall, has a sympathetic connection with the above, inasmuch as it is the gift of a co-religionist of Sir David Salomons and of a citizen whose reputation for acts of benevolence and philanthropy, apart from any particular class or creed, is widely known. Sir Moses Montefiore has but recently passed away full of years, honoured and widely revered and respected by his countrymen at large. He sustained the reputation of the City at the time when he was more closely connected with it; he filled the office of Sheriff as long since as the year 1837, and to this fact is probably due the donation which he made of this particular window to the Corporation. In the left hand light appear the Arms of the City, while in the right are inserted those of Sir Moses. In the lower opening is a Shield bearing the Arms of the County of Kent, together with a shield upon which is a harp and crown, symbolical of the East, both shields being surrounded by wreaths of palm and olive trees.

On the 29th April, 1869, the Court of Common Council decided that the window at the west end of the Hall should be filled with stained glass in the highest style of art, and that it should be dedicated to the memory of His late Royal Highness the Prince Consort. The Committee appointed had twenty different designs with estimates before them for consideration; they were submitted to Her Majesty for approval; she selected two from the number, and concurred in the decision at which the Committee arrived, viz., that the design as prepared by Messrs. Ward and Hughes was the most effective and suitable for the purpose. The window has five lights, a transom divides the upper tier from the lower, which has double panels, making up fifteen divisions in all. There are two side wings, which are occupied by four figures, viz., Wisdom, Justice, Prudence and Fortitude. In the lower tier are typified Agriculture, Industry, Trade, Education, Charity and Commerce. In the upper row are representations of Music, Poetry and History; Peace, Purity, Religion and Home Prosperity; Architecture, Painting and Sculpture; Science and Literature. In the centre is a seated figure of the Prince with a book in hand, and in an attitude of thoughtful meditation. In the background are two figures unveiling the first Crystal Palace, or, rather, the Great Exhibition of 1851. The upper openings of tracery contain the Royal Arms and those of the City of London, with the personal crests of the Prince, and the several Orders of the Bath, Garter, St. Patrick,



St. Michael and St. George, together with the Arms of those of the City Companies with which the Prince was more closely associated. This window is a fine example of its kind, and has been much admired; it has been described as a Mosaic, a term which is highly appropriate, inasmuch as there are as many as 580 pieces of glass in one square of 30 superficial feet. The leads forming the outlines are not observable, the affectation of broken leading having been studiously avoided. It was unveiled by His Royal Highness Prince Arthur on the 3rd of November, 1870. It is seen to the best advantage in a strong sun-light.

In the window at the north-west corner of the Hall, the following historical incidents have been selected for illustration, viz.:—1. William the Conqueror holding in his hand the first Charter granted to the City of London. 2. Henry I presenting the Charter granting to the City of London the County of Middlesex with London, and the Right of Hunting in the Forests. 3. Richard I granting the Charter conveying to the City of London the Conservancy of the River Thames. 4. Edward VI presenting the Charter of the Four Royal Hospitals. This was the gift of Mr. Cornelius Lea Wilson, the son of Mr. Alderman Wilson.

The next of the series is the window above the door leading to the Lobby of the Council Chamber. In it and in one compartment is a full-length representation of Fitz-Alwyn, the first Mayor, A.D. 1189 to 1212; in the light above appears his Coat of Arms, and in the lower light the Arms of the Weavers' Company, the City Sword, Mace, and Cap of Maintenance are arranged beneath. In the other compartments is a similar representation of Whittington, thrice Mayor of London, A.D. 1397, 1406, 1419; in the light above is his Coat of Arms; in the lower light are the City Arms with the Sceptre, Collar of S.S. and Jewel, and the Mayoralty Seal arranged beneath. This was presented in 1863 by the Weavers' Company, the most ancient of the City Guilds, Samuel Wilson, Esq., Alderman, being Upper Bailiff.

In the adjoining window, towards the west, the following interesting subjects have been treated, viz.:—1. Trinobantes: British Inhabitants of London, with a representation of the Tower of London, which was "begun to be builded at the end of the 11th century." 2. The erection of the Roman Wall, beneath which is a view of Baynard's Castle. 3. Edward the Confessor recognising the privileges of the Citizens of London. Below this is a view of Old London Bridge, which was "begun to be builded in 1176." 4. Edward IV making four Citizens of London Knights of the Bath. Beneath is a representation of St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. Presented in 1866, by Samuel Wilson, Esq., Alderman of the Ward of Bridge Without; Alderman of the Ward of Castle Baynard from 1831 to 1853; chosen Sheriff in 1833, and Lord Mayor in 1839.

Above Nelson's monument is a window put up by the Corporation some years ago to commemorate some of the most important of the many historical events connected with the City, for example:—

1. Robert Fitzwalter doing service as Banneret, 1303. 2. The Youth of London swearing fealty at Paul's Cross, 1259. 3. Henry Picard, Mayor, feasting four Kings, 1363. 4. The holding a great Joust on London Bridge, 1395. 5. Edward III first ordering gold to be coined in the Tower, 1344. 6. Thomas Knowles, Lord Mayor in 1411.



7. William Walworth, Mayor, slaying Wat Tyler in 1381. 8. Henry V making his triumphal entry into London after the battle of Agincourt in 1415.

In the Window over the Monument to the Duke of Wellington, are depicted the figures of SS. Andrew, Bride, Helen, and Dunstan, placed under canopies, one of the Churches dedicated in the name of each Saint being introduced in the background, except in the case of S. Helen, where S. Sepulchre, Snow Hill, has been chosen, there being no Church dedicated to her name in Farringdon Ward Without, she having founded the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem. Beneath the figures are medallions containing views respectively of the Holborn Viaduct, Blackfriars Bridge, the New Meat Market in Smithfield, and Temple Bar. This was presented by the Ward of Farringdon Without.

In the last but one of the series, viz.: the Third Window from the Eastern End on the North side, is represented in the lowest compartments the Arms of the Haberdashers' Company, and the Arms of England in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by whom their Charter was granted. In the upper part are figures of S. Nicholas and S. Catherine, the patron Saints of the Company, by whom it was presented.

One of the latest additions, and it is the last to which any reference need be made, is the window presented to the Corporation by Mr. John T. Bedford, Deputy. It commemorates one of the noblest gifts ever made by the Corporation for the benefit and advantage of the public, viz., the protection, from the hands of contractor or builder, of some 5,500 acres of unenclosed land comprised within the area so well known as "Epping Forest." It was in April, 1871, that the following resolution was moved in the House of Commons by Mr. Cowper Temple, viz., "That it is the duty of the Government to preserve Epping Forest for the recreation and enjoyment of the people," but it was not until the year 1882, after a long period of wearisome litigation that the final award was made, and the official map prepared which determined the boundaries of the Forest, and bequeathed to the public for ever this lovely and healthful district for the purposes of pleasure and recreation. The window represents two events in the history of the Forest, separated by an interval of 300 years, viz., from 1582 to 1882. The first relates to Queen Elizabeth starting for the chase, her Hunting Lodge, which is still preserved, being seen close by. The other is Queen Victoria, accompanied by the Princesses Louise and Beatrice, and the Duchess of Connaught, attended by the Duke of Connaught, the Ranger of the Forest, and by Sir William V. Harcourt, Home Secretary, receiving an address from the Corporation, represented by the Lord Mayor, Sir John Whittaker Ellis, Bt., the Recorder, and the Sheriffs, previously to the dedication of the Forest to public use on the 6th May, 1882.

There are yet two relics of interest preserved in the interior of the Hall, of which some description should be given, inasmuch as they are so closely associated with all the historical traditions of the building. Any description of Guildhall without some account of the two giants, Gog and Magog, would be anything but complete. These two colossal figures are placed in the angles of the western end above the gallery on two octagonal pedestals; they are both about 14 feet 6 inches in height, and are said to have been the work of

Gog and  
Magog.

Captain Richard Saunders, a well-known carver, in King Street, Cheapside, in the early part of the last century. Though now known as Gog and Magog, the two names have originated from *one* which, from some reason or other, has become divided into two. They were originally presumed to represent Gogmagog and Corineus, two mystical personages who were said to have fought together in some of those imaginary conflicts between the Trojans and the early inhabitants of these islands, which are recorded by the monkish chroniclers of the Middle Ages. This fostered the belief that, in the figures of these giants is preserved to the present day, the tradition that our City was an outcome of such early conflicts, and that London, as "stately Troynovant," or New Troy, was the principal city of Albion, a settlement, according to Geoffery of Monmouth, which was effected about a thousand years before the commencement of the Christian era. In the accompanying woodcuts we have illustrations of both figures—



GOG (GOGMAGOG).



MAGOG (CORINEUS).

Gogmagog is represented armed with a globe full of spikes fastened to a long pole by a chain, a weapon known in the Middle Ages as "a morning star," such an implement being used by horsemen to whirl about them in the *melée*, and break the armour or otherwise injure fighting men; in addition, the giant carries at his back a bow and together with a quiver full of arrows. The other figure, Corineus, with shield and spear, is attired in the old conventional Roman costume, so much in fashion at the time when these figures were manufactured. It is not a little singular that, until the time of William Hone, not one of our local historians had attempted to throw any light upon the origin or purpose of these legendary effigies. To him they were, as they are to country visitors and children of the present day, objects of interest and veneration. "From the time," he writes, "when I was first astonished by the information that every day when the giants hear the clock strike twelve they come down to dinner, I have had something of curiosity towards them, How came they there, and what are they for? In vain have been my examinations of Stow,

Howel, Strype, Northouck, Maitland, Seymour, Pennant, and numberless other authors of books and tracts regarding London. They scarcely deign to mention them."<sup>1</sup> In addition to Hone's researches, and it is to him that the credit is due of first directing notice to these figures, and the stores of legendary lore which are connected with them, they have also received a considerable share of attention from two of our most able antiquaries, viz., the late Francis Douce, F.S.A.,<sup>2</sup> and the late F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A. The latter some few years ago published an interesting little work upon the subject, with illustrations of similar figures in other of our country towns, together with some curious examples yet preserved upon the Continent. To the early history of municipalities in Belgium and Flanders, and other foreign districts, Mr. Fairholt considers these figures to belong, grounding his belief on the fact that upon the great *fête* days in towns like Antwerp, Malines, Louvain, Brussels, Ghent, &c., which are each in possession of their communal giant, the figure is brought out and takes a place in the ceremonial, as was the custom with respect to our Gog and Magog in the Lord Mayor's pageants up to a comparatively recent time. It is, however, probable that the true origin of the myth is to be traced to a far earlier source; and, indeed, to that popular belief in the existence of races of gigantic stature, which is known to have originated in the East. In scripture history, Gog and Magog are familiar terms, the words, according to modern commentators, being typical, not so much of individuals as of warlike nations noted for cruelty and rapacity such as the Scythians, a dominant race, said to have descended from Japhet, and settled between the Caucasus and Mesopotamia, the names of the mountains in the district being known as *Ghogh* and *Moghef* to the present day. That it is to this source that students, who are interested in pursuing the enquiry further, should look for information, is borne out by the association between the weapons selected for the effigy of Gog and the people referred to. The bow was the national weapon, and in the prophecies of Ezekiel this is dwelt upon in detail, the taking away from him his bow and arrows being one of the judgments which are foretold as coming upon Gog and his kingdom.<sup>3</sup>

The mystical story of the adventures of Gogmagog and Corineus is recorded in a rare and curious little book which was published in the year 1741 by one Thomas Boreman, a bookseller, who after the fashion of the time was allowed to dispose of his publications in Guildhall. At this time the Hall was occupied in parts by stall and shop-keepers, and the proprietor of this singular little work is described as a bookseller "near the Giants in Guildhall; and at the Boot and Crown on Ludgate Hill in 1741." In this book the origin of the giants is considered at some length, and it is all, of course, but a fabulous and idle story, but at the same time it possesses interest as illustrating how some of the folk lore which surviving from a very early time throughout the Middle Ages has, in the very existence and conservation of these quaint old figures, been cherished to the present day.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See W. Hone's Extracts from his Article on the Guildhall. Grants appended to his *Antient Mysteries Described*, 8vo. 1823.

<sup>2</sup> See "Ancient Typography of London," J. T. Smith, 1815, p. 78.

<sup>3</sup> Ezekiel xxxix.

<sup>4</sup> The late Mr. J. G. Nichols, F.S.A., was in possession of a copy of this strange little book. It was in two volumes, each measuring but  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches high by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad, and a full page only contained fourteen lines and sixty words. These tiny volumes were bound in boards, covered with the old Dutch paper, having a green raised pattern on a gold ground. The price of each volume, as marked upon the title, was only fourpence.



In this little book we read, "Before the present giants inhabited Guildhall there were two giants made only of wicker work and pasteboard, put together with great art and ingenuity, and these two terrible original giants had the honour yearly to grace my Lord Mayor's Show, being carried in great triumph in the time of the pageants; and when that eminent annual service was over, remounted their old stations in Guildhall, till by reason of their very great age, Old Time, with the help of a number of City rats and mice had eaten up all their entrails. The dissolution of the two old, weak, and feeble giants gave birth to the two present substantial and majestic giants, who by order and at the City charge, were formed and fashioned. Captain Richard Saunders, an eminent carver in King Street, Cheapside, was their father, who after he had completely finished, clothed, and armed, these his two sons, they were immediately advanced to their lofty stations in Guildhall, which they have peaceably enjoyed ever since the year 1708." It was this incidental notice of "their father," which enabled Hone to make researches among the City accounts at the Chamberlain's office, and under the head of "Extraordinary Works" for the year 1707, he fortunately discovered among the sums "paid for repairing of the Guildhall and Chappell," an entry in the following words:—"To *Richard Saunders*, Carver, Seventy Pounds, by order of the Co'mittee, for repairing Guildhall, dated ye xth of April, 1707, for work by him done, £70." "This entry of the payment," says Hone, "confirms the relation of the gigantic historian. Saunders' bill, which doubtless contained the charges for the two giants, and all the vouchers before 1786, belonging to the Chamberlain's office, were destroyed by the fire of that year. Some fifty years later, viz., when the interior of the Hall was re-decorated under the superintendence of Mr. Dance, the giants were repaired and painted in the same manner as heretofore."

There is an entry in Machyn's "Diary," which illustrates the popular custom of parading the giants before the eyes of the citizens on the occasion of any important pageant or procession. In 1553 on "the xvij day of Marche cam through London from Algatt, Master Maynard, the Shreyff of London, with a standard and dromes, and after gyants both great and small." In addition, there are references in the churchwardens' accounts of some of the City parishes to payments made in connection with the exhibition of the giants; for example, in the accounts belonging to the Parish of St. Andrew Hubbard, there is this entry, dated in the year 1533:—"Receyved for the Jeyantt, xixd."; and again in 1535—"Receyved for the Jeyantt ij viijd." Puttenham, in his "Arte of English Poesie," 1589, speaks of "Midsommer pageants in London, where, to make the people wonder, are set forth great and ugle gyants, marching as if they were alive, and armed at all points; but within they are stuffed full of brown paper and tow, which the shrewd boyes, underpeeping, do guilefully discover and turne to a great derision."<sup>1</sup>

It has been stated by certain of our antiquarian writers that after the destruction of the Hall the figures were not renewed for a considerable period. This opinion was probably due to the reference to them in Hatton's "New View of London," which was published in the year 1708. The author says in this work:—"This stately Hall being much damnified by the unhappy conflagration of the City in 1666, was rebuilt *anno* 1669, and extremely well beautified and repaired both in and outside, which cost about £2,500

<sup>1</sup> Quoted by Mr. Fairholt in his "Gog and Magog, The Giants in Guildhall," 1859, p. 51.



and two *new* figures of gigantic magnitude will be *as before*." Had the writer said the "new figures" had been already made, he would have been far more accurate; for it appears from the civic records that they were in course of construction in the year 1672, and moreover were utilised for the Lord Mayor's Show in that particular year. On the 15th October, 1672, we find that "Upon the request of the right honorable the Lord Maior Elect This Court doth thinke fitt and order That the two Gyants now preparing to be sett upp in the Guildhall shall be used upon the next Lord Maiors Day for such purpose as his Lopp shall thinke fitting, His Lopp now ingageing to restore them againe in as good plight and condicōn as they shall bee in when hee shall receive them."<sup>1</sup> It is moreover certain that they were standing in the Hall some thirty years later, for there is a reference to them in that curious little book, by Ned Ward, entitled "London Spy."<sup>2</sup> Describing his visit to Guildhall, he writes: "We turn'd down King Street, and came to the place intended, which I enter'd with as great astonishment to see the Giants, as the Morocco Ambassador did London, when he saw the snow fall. I asked my friend the meaning and design of setting up those two Lubberly Preposterous Figures, for I suppose they had some peculiar end in't. 'Truly,' says my friend, 'I am wholly ignorant of what they intended by 'em, unless they were set up to show the City what huge Boobies their Forefathers were, or else to fright Stubborn Apprentices into Obedience; for the dread of appearing before two such Monstrous Loggerheads, will sooner Reform their Manners, or mould 'em into a Compliance with their masters' will, than carrying 'em before my Lord Mayor, or the Chamberlain of London; for some of them are as much frighted at the names of *Gog* and *Magog*, as little children are at the terrible sound of Raw-head and Bloody-bones.'"

Mr. Archdeacon Nares in his Glossary corroborates what had in his time been written as to who were the individuals that the giants were presumed to represent. He gives a quotation from some old verses which are printed on a broadside of the year 1660, viz.:

And such stout *Coronæus* was, from whom  
Cornwall's first honor, and her name doth come  
For though he sheweth not so great nor tall  
In his dimensions set forth at *Guildhall*  
Know 'tis a poet only can define,  
A gyant's posture in a gyant's line.  
And thus attended by his direfull dog  
The gyant was (God bless us) *Gogmagog*.

There were further repairs and alterations made in the Great Hall in the year 1815, and at this time the figures were removed from the position which they had so long occupied. This, as shown in the illustrations of the buildings, which were published prior to the removal, was over the stairs leading from the Hall to the various Courts of Law and the Council Chamber. They were on either side of a balcony of ironwork, and between them was placed the old clock, which was at one time an object of considerable interest in the Hall.

Towards the end of the year above mentioned, the figures were repaired and decorated and placed upon the present pedestals, which now occupy the two sides of the

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 77, fol. 26b.

<sup>2</sup> "The London Spy," 4th edit., 1709, p. 93.

great west window. In 1837 they were again restored, and in that year, Alderman Lucas, being Lord Mayor, copies of these giants, fourteen feet in height, were introduced in the Lord Mayor's Show; each walked by the aid of a man within them, and they, from time to time, turned their faces to the spectators who lined the streets. It was the final exhibition of the olden glories of that day.<sup>1</sup>

The entry in the City records corroborates the statement made by the late Mr. J. Gough Nichols, F.S.A., to the effect that the giants, which were put up after the Great Fire, were those which appeared in the Lord Mayor's Show of the year afore-mentioned. In his description of the Fishmongers' pageant in the year 1616,<sup>2</sup> he remarks that the giants formed a favourite portion of the pageantry from an early period. When King Henry VI was received into the City in the year 1452, at London Bridge, "there was devysed a myghty gyant standynge with a swerde drawyn," holding a poetical challenge to all the King's enemies. On the entrance of King Philip in the year 1554 at the draw-bridge, there was a pageant, and the Giants Corineus and Gogmagog appeared holding some congratulatory Latin verses. Again, on the occasion of the passing through the City of Queen Elizabeth on the 12th January, 1558, the day prior to her Coronation at Westminster, the same terrible personages were stationed at Temple Bar, and they also appear by name in the Mayor's pageant of the year 1605. The figures, continues Mr. Nichols, which were made for Guildhall after the Great Fire, were drawn through the streets in the Lord Mayor's Show of 1672, when they are spoken of as "two extreme great Giants, each of them at least fifteen foot high, that do sit and are drawn by horses in two several chariots, moving, talking, and taking tobacco as they ride along, to the great admiration and delight of all the spectators. At the conclusion of the Show they are to be set up in Guildhall, where they may be daily seen all the year, and I hope never to be demolished by such dismal violence as happened to their predecessors, which are raised at the peculiar and proper cost of the City."

There is also a reference to the Giants in the "Iter Boreale," written by Bishop Corbet, in the reign of James I. Comparing them with similar figures at Holmby, the residence of Sir Christopher Hatton, he says—

"Oh you, that do Guildhall and Holmeby keep  
See carefully, when both the founders sleepe,  
You are good giants."

The figures of the giants as they appeared at the close of the last century appear to have left a somewhat unfavourable impression on the mind of a foreign observer. It is not often that we are enabled to meet with any criticism upon the public buildings of our City by a visitor from abroad. It would indeed be a matter of great interest were it possible to discover, what must doubtless exist in many foreign libraries, works in which would be found recorded the impressions left by the City of London on the minds of intelligent travellers visiting the towns and cities of England in the Middle Ages. Their description of the Churches, Halls, and the buildings existing in the City would be of the highest interest and value. In an interesting little work by Mons. P. J. Grosley, descriptive of a visit which he paid to London in the year 1772, there are many graphic references to what attracted his attention, and his impressions are recorded with an impartiality which does

<sup>1</sup> Fairholt's "Gog and Magog, the Giants in Guildhall," p. 50.

<sup>2</sup> "Chrysanaeia, the Golden Fishing" devised by Anthony Munday, edit. 1844, p. 6.

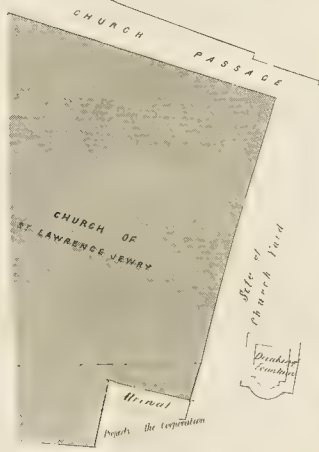


# THE GUILD-HALL

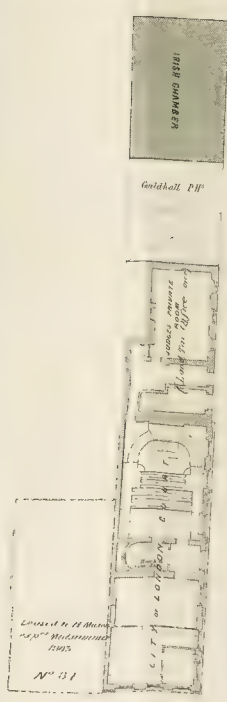
OF THE  
City of London



1884



## GUILDHALL YARD

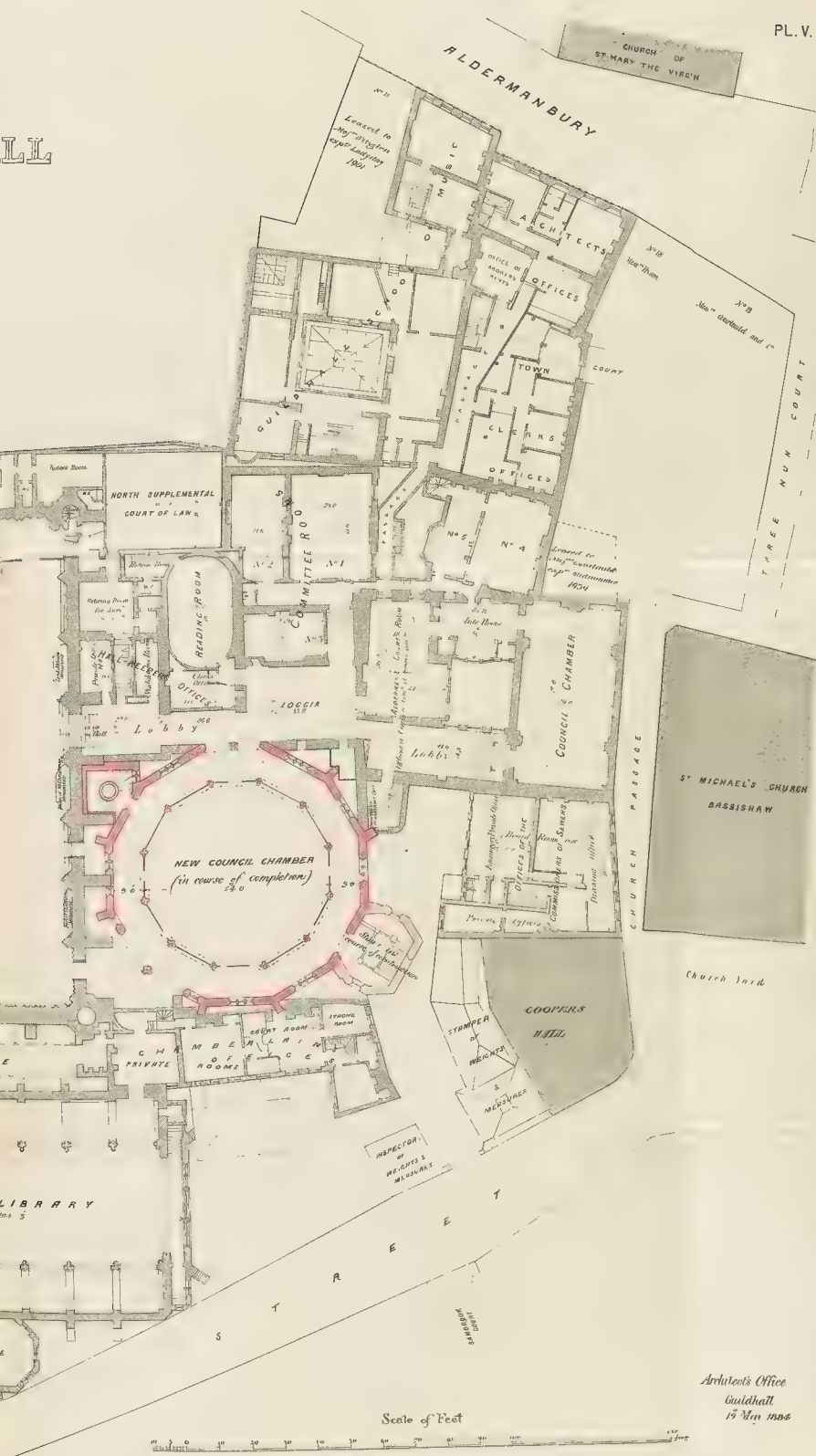


## GUILDHALL BUILDINGS





II





him honour, although there can be readily discerned in going through the book the excessive fondness and attachment that he naturally cherished for his own country. He compares the Gothic Monuments, which he visited while in England, such as those at Oxford, Windsor, and our City Churches, with those in France, and refers to certain Chapels as not terminating in a semicircle, as do those upon the Continent. "The extremity," he says, "which is perpendicularly intersected, is entirely taken up with glass casements which let in excessive light, necessary, no doubt, under a sky generally gloomy, but too dazzling in sunshine." "The English," he continues, "have a general rambling taste for the several objects of the polite arts, which does not even exclude the Gothic; it still prevails not only in ornaments of fancy, but even in some modern buildings. To this taste they are indebted for the preservation of the two giants in Guildhall. These giants," he says, "in comparison of which the Jacquemard of St. Paul's at Paris is a bauble, seem placed there for no other end but to frighten children; the better to answer this purpose, care has frequently been taken to renew the daubing on their faces and arms. There might be some reason for retaining those monstrous figures, if they were of great antiquity, or if like the stone, which served as the first throne to the Kings of Scotland, and is carefully preserved at Westminster, the people looked upon them as the palladium of the nation; but they have nothing to recommend them, and they only raise at first view a surprise in foreigners, who must consider them as a production in which both Danish and Saxon barbarism are happily combined."<sup>1</sup>

Leaving the interior of the building, we have next to investigate the Crypt which forms the eastern portion of the substructure of the Hall. The length in clear of walls is 76 feet, width 45 feet 3 inches, and average height 13 feet 7 inches. The three avenues or aisles are of equal width, being 13 feet 4 inches each, and longitudinally the pillars are 17 feet 2 inches apart, all measured in the clear between the shafts. It is one of the best of the few mediæval examples remaining in London, and is superior in dimensions, superficially, to Saint Stephen's Crypt, Westminster, which measures in length 90 feet, breadth 28 feet, and height 20 feet. For excellence of design, extent, soundness of construction, and, also, for its good condition, it may be considered an unrivalled, and indeed an unique, example of its kind. It was restored to its original condition in the year 1851 under the direction of the late City Architect, Mr. J. B. Bunning, F.S.A., who also provided a commodious entrance thereto, on the North side, so as to render it accessible without difficulty. It was consequently visited by a large number of persons, and became an object of considerable interest, more especially so when, on the 9th of July, 1851, the Corporation entertained Her Majesty the Queen, His late Royal Highness the Prince Consort, and the leading persons who were associated with the Great Exhibition of that year. Upon this occasion it was fitted up in the style of an ancient baronial hall, and provided with suitable furniture. It was specially appropriated to the service of Her Majesty as a supper room, the valuable plate of the several City Companies being displayed upon an oak sideboard. In each of the recesses were placed mirrors, and from the walls was suspended tapestry copied from the famous examples at Bayeux, in Normandy, representing the incidents connected with the Conquest of England by William I. Around

The Eastern  
Crypt.

<sup>1</sup> "A Tour of London," etc., by M. P. J. Grosley, F.R.S., translated by Thomas Nugent, LL.D., vol. i, p. 88. 1772. For Remarks on the Work, see "Quarterly Review," July, 1816, p. 510.

the columns supporting the roof City policemen stood, clad in suits of armour, brought from the Tower of London, each holding in his hand a torch of gas wherewith the Crypt was lighted. On the occasion, moreover, the Western Crypt was filled with trees, vines, and flowers, of all descriptions, and hundreds of singing birds were let free, thus giving the appearance of a forest glade in summer time.

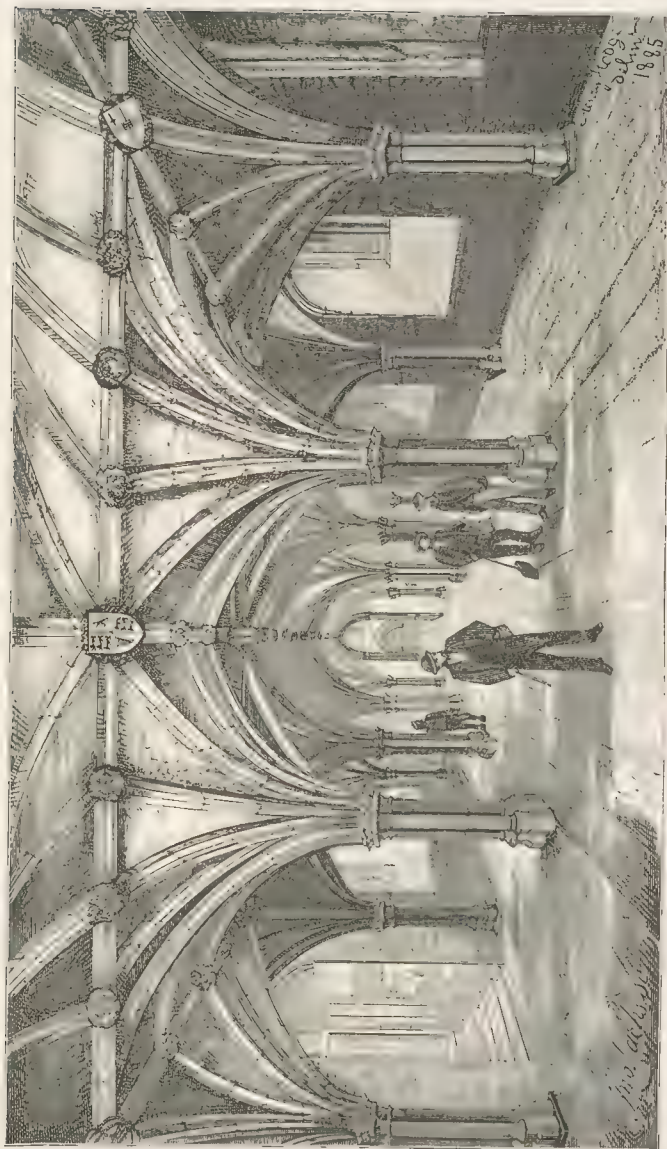


FIG. 1.

It is a matter of conjecture as to what were the purposes to which this Crypt was originally devoted, and the question arises, why it was not constantly utilised, but permitted to fall into a state of desuetude and obscurity, and an accumulation of soil and rubbish allowed to have occurred to a depth of several feet, which was found to be the case at the time the clearance was effected. It is presumed to be in part coeval—if not earlier—with the superstructure which was commenced in 1411, in the 13th year of the reign of Henry IV. The basement or undercroft story extends over i whole area, but a transverse division wall, about 3 feet in thickness, of rubble stone and ashlar of rough masonry, separates the space into two nearly equal parts. In the centre of this wall is an ancient doorway for communication between the two Crypts, and the wall ribs and pillars of the vaulting are built into and form part of its structure, which gives rise to the opinion that this cross wall and the Eastern Crypt were built simultaneously.

The doorway between the two Crypts on the centre-line of the division wall is bold and massive, yet simple, bearing the impress of similarity of design and workmanship to the details of the Western Crypt, and in harmony with the varying methods of treatment of the period to which it may be attributed. The opening (on the eastern face) is 11 feet in height and 4 feet 8 inches in width. It is rebated 3 inches on each jamb to receive the door or doors, in which the hanging staples remain, to open westward. On the east side of the jambs is a bold hollow-chamfer 6 inches wide, stopped at about 2 feet from the pavement, and probably continued across the head, now non-existent, the face of the stone-work there having been entirely destroyed, thus exposing the back arch. On the west side jamb is a 2½-inch moulding. It may be of interest to remark that the connection of the jambs and the back-arch is effected by the introduction of a curve Fig. 1 shews also the wall and ridge ribs, boss and groins of the vaulting. Where





THE CRYPT, GULDBALL.



the face has been removed, it exposes the rough hearting of the wall, and the ribs and boss which are built into it. Through the doorway is observable the modern centre passage-way of the cellarge of the Western Crypt.

The Eastern Crypt being entirely vaulted, is composed of three aisles or avenues, from east to west, divided transversely by four vaults, having two rows of piers, 7 feet 6 inches high, each of which is composed of four engaged three-quarter pillars, 6 inches diameter, set upon a hollow-chamfered pier, 1 foot square, all of Purbeck marble. All the walls have responds and angle-attached piers of 1 foot projection. These pillars have moulded bases on plinths corresponding with capitals, from which springs the bold vaulting forming the ceiling and support of the superincumbent pavement, having level ridge and other intersecting hollow-



FIG. 2.

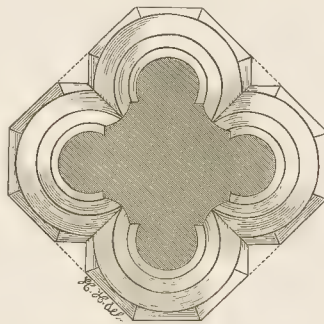
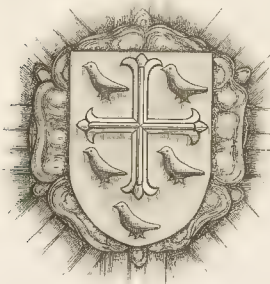


FIG. 3.

chamfered ribs. The bases, capitals and ribs are worked out of stone and the groins of chalk.

The plan of the piers is shewn by Fig. 3, 1 inch scale, and the sections of bases and caps are included in a later portion of this description.

With reference to the piers:—In “Brandon’s Analysis of Gothic Architecture,”<sup>1</sup> an example of a similar pier (on plan) is given from Lindfield Church, Sussex, and also in “Paley’s Manual of Gothic Mouldings,” another of the like plan is shown from St. Martin’s, Stamford. The same idea governs the plan of the engaged piers of the Hall over the Guildhall Crypt. Similar in character will be found the arcade piers of the Church of Austin Friars, in London.



At the intersections and points of the ribs an interesting series of carved bosses, 10 inches diameter, is introduced. Those in the centres of the groins (12) being large roses, 21 inches diameter, bearing shields which are charged with the Arms assigned to King Edward the Confessor—viz., *azure*, a cross flory between five martlets *or*. These Arms were granted

Bosses.

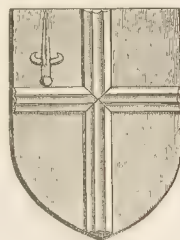
as augmentation to Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, by Richard II, who used this coat impaling France quarterly with England—the City of London (6), Saint George of

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i, p. 80.

England (2), and (1). The large shield rose on the vaulting of the north-east bay of the Crypt is charged with crossed swords, but the hilts of the swords (as hatched) are only painted on the shield, consequently, at a distance, the blades look like two sceptres only. The blades themselves appear to have been slightly mutilated, and it is possible that the hilts may have been worked off in troublous times and then painted on, or restored under more favourable circumstances; or presuming the under-



croft to have served as a religious edifice, they may have been obliterated when it ceased to be devoted to such a purpose. The shield, however, may be an illustration of what is termed Episcopal Heraldry. The Arms of the See of London are *Gules*, two swords in saltier *Argent*, hilted and pommelled *or*. The origin of the objects selected is probably an intention to typify the swords of both St. Peter and St. Paul. The remaining two have



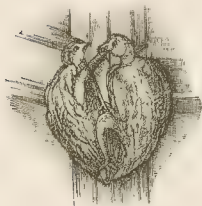
the Arms of England and of Russia emblazoned upon them, and are modern. The City Arms are in the side aisles, and those of St. George in the centre.

The mediæval sculptors, especially of the Third Pointed period, appear to have revelled both in originality and variety as to the conception of their subjects, and also in the indulgence of grotesqueness, and even in that which in the present age we should term vulgarity and coarseness. The large collection of bosses in the Crypt embraces all these especial features. There are some which simply represent Gothic leaves and foliage; others, oak leaves with acorns; knotty twists of leaves and stems; and likewise, the adaptation of the *fleur-de-lys*, or Tudor flower; not originating with the Tudors, but much used in their time. Generally there was angularity and stiffness in style, but here we find, especially as regards the roses, marigolds, &c., a somewhat natural treatment. A wreath of roses enriches these bosses, together with flowers, variously rendered. Supposing that the white rose was the cognizance of the House of Lancaster, then its use here would be readily accounted for.

Shakespeare in "King Henry VI," Part First, Act II, Scene 4, referring to the Temple Garden, London, introduces the cognizances of the white rose (Lancaster) and the red rose (York); but this incident does not appear especially to represent the origin of their use by the two factions, but simply an adaptation of historical facts.

There are also birds and a tortoise. These are treated naturally, not in the

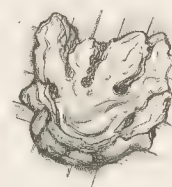
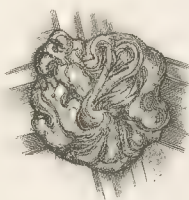
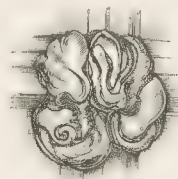
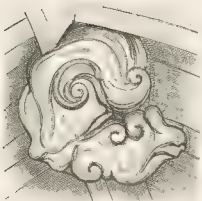
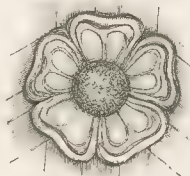
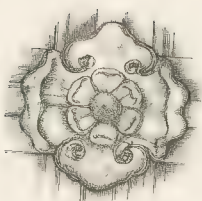
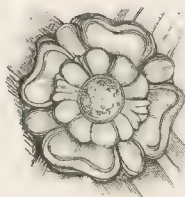
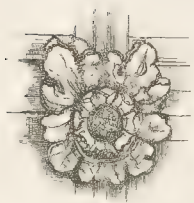
grotesque manner which is observable, for example, on the beautiful Magdalen Tower, at Oxford;<sup>1</sup> on this building a series of ornaments, representing birds, dogs, lions, stags, dragons, monkeys, human figures, marks and foliage of a remarkable character may still be recognised. The curious figure of the monkey in the Crypt is surrounded by wreathed branches of



Gothic foliage. The draped head is one of the most interesting figures in the series. It may

<sup>1</sup> "Specimens of Gothic Architecture at Oxford," by F. Mackenzie and A. Pugin.





BOSSES. EASTERN CRYPT, GUILDHALL, LONDON.



be intended as an effigy of a sombre ecclesiastic, or, perhaps, to typify the city merchants of the time. The figure is seen with the cap or chaplion ordinarily worn in the 14th century. To it is attached the hanging tippet, scarf, or *liripipe*, which it was the custom to wear either dangling behind, or sometimes wound about the neck, and the end, as in the example before us, brought over the cap.<sup>1</sup> This article of costume was likewise adopted by ladies. Henry Knighton, a chronicler of the reign of Edward III, writing about 1348, in his description of ladies riding to a tournament and affecting a masculine appearance, says they wore short hoods and *liripipes* wrapped about their heads like cords. There have



been some differences of opinion expressed by certain of our antiquaries who have recently inspected this interesting collection of ornamental bosses. The figure is thought by some to represent a female head. If this were so, it might have a reference to St. Mary Magdalen to whom was dedicated the adjacent Chapel. The two heads, or masks, are curious. The man



with stiff, curled locks, beard, massive features, and peculiar closure of one eye-lid, is an example of the grotesque, well matched by the female head with locks and wreath of Gothic foliage, distended mouth, protrusive tongue, and mis-shapen nose. This singular face may have been intended to typify a witch. The protruding tongue is a not unusual feature. It has been observed on the metal plate of a closing ring at St. Nicholas Church, Gloucester, where a female head, quaintly set and reversed, over a monster's head, has the tongue<sup>2</sup> in the same position, indeed, even more pronounced. It is probable that this peculiar representation has been derived from classic times, for it has been observed upon a vase of *Chiusi* pottery and on coins of Populonia, and other Etruscan cities.



Upon these are illustrations of the slant eyes, strange nose, distended mouth, snaky locks,<sup>3</sup> and tongue lolling out of

"The open mouth, that seemed to containe  
A full good pecke within the utmost brim,  
All set with yron teeth in raunges twaine  
That terrified his foes and armed him,  
Appearing, like the mouth of Orcus, ghastly grim."

They are all curious subjects, and in studying them a comparison may be instituted with the following examples, viz., a small, demoniacal wide-mouthed figure, showing the tongue hanging down, and likewise monster-like, together with the unnatural heads or masks in the group at the Magdalen Tower, Oxford; likewise with the masks and other figures in the freize of the entablature over the windows of St. Stephen's Chapel, Westminster. There is also a head of a like character carved in oak as a cusp termination at the Church of Higham Ferrers. This, though but a small figure, exhibits a combination of these various peculiarities. In addition to the subjects above-mentioned as being in the Crypt, there are shields and leaves on wall-ribs, and four-winged angels at the apices of the

<sup>1</sup> See "Cyclopædia of Costume," J. R. Planché, F.S.A., p. 292.

<sup>2</sup> Brandon's "Analysis of Gothic Architecture." Vol. i, p. 102.

<sup>3</sup> Dennis' "Cities and Cemeteries of Etruria." Vol. ii, p. 221.

window-heads. The number of carved subjects is altogether ninety-one, the whole variously and ingeniously designed, and not one, probably, without some meaning or intention.

The Rev. E. C. Mackenzie Walcott, a high authority in all connected with sacred archaeology, has given, in his "Popular Dictionary of Ecclesiastical Art and Institutions," an interesting conventional delineation of the significance which is attached to the various forms in which angels are represented; and he quotes examples which are preserved in the painted glass of New College Chapel, Oxford, and others in churches at Tattershall, Warwick, Wells (Norfolk), Southwold in Suffolk, and elsewhere.<sup>1</sup> It would seem that in the selection by the sculptor, an angel with six wings would be intended to typify the *Seraphim*, whose spiritual swiftmess was supposed to be indicated by the number of their wings. On the other hand, the *Cherubim*, so-called, writes St. Jerome, from their exceeding knowledge, or their swiftmess, appeared with four wings to veil their feet and faces, and looking towards each other, or are represented by winged heads, or of red colour, or standing upon burning wheels.<sup>2</sup> Their association with birds amongst foliage and flowers, would, in a religious building, often have been intended to convey the idea of deliverance of the souls of the departed from earthly habitation.

The side walls have windows in those bays where the doorways are not present. They are of three lights (triplets), having tre-foiled arched heads, the centre



FIG. 4.

opening 6 feet 5 inches high, is stilted 7 inches above the side lights, and all of equal width; 1 foot 10 inches divided by two mullions  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide, with corresponding jambs and sills. It will be observed that the inside face of the window is plain (excepting the sunk eyes); this plain fillet on the mullion is  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide, and is rebated back  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches. (This feature is noticeable in the western windows.)

<sup>1</sup> "Sacred Archaeology, &c.," by Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, B.D., 1868, p. 29. <sup>2</sup> Psalm xviii. Ezekiel i, 19, 20.



Three windows only remain open; two are closed by brickwork in the lights, and one has been converted into a doorway. The width of the opening is 9 feet, and the height to the apex from the pavement is 12 feet 8 inches, the soffits of the centre light and the arch being at a difference of level about 3 feet 4 inches; across, the window is 7 feet 5 inches, and it is recessed 4 feet. The height of the wall under the window-back from the pavement is 4 feet, and 7 feet 2 inches from the opening to the springing of the drop-head. The flat top of the wall is 18 inches wide, and the window back is 3 feet 10 inches high. The reveals and back are stone and chalk ashlar. The stone of the window itself is a freestone. One of the ancient bars, with slots for the vertical bars and also the mortices, is shown. Fig. 4 illustrates one of these windows in connection with the responds or clusters of wall-pillars and a group of ribs springing therefrom, forming the vaulting, and a block of stone under the plinth which is probably a portion of the ancient pavement. This is apparently Purbeck. It also indicates the bold character of the ashlar faces and the adjacent walling generally. This and Fig. 7 form an interesting comparison between the principal features of the two Crypts.

At the eastern end, in the centre of the building, is an arched doorway, 14 feet 6½ inches in height and in width 6 feet 6 inches. The inner jambs and arched head are beautifully enriched with groups of small mouldings; in each jamb are two engaged shafts with delicately formed caps and bases. The main wall under the original opening or sill has been removed; it was about 3 feet 9 inches high originally, and steps were used from the exterior to interior pavement level, as the ends of such are visible in the walling cut through, and existed up to the erection of the adjacent buildings. The inside face of the wall adjacent to this doorway is fairly ashlared from level of the original opening upwards, with rough facing below. In the outside reveals, which are 4 feet 2 inches wide, the wall being here of a total thickness of 6 feet, there are doors on either side communicating, by stone steps in the thickness of the wall, with the building above. The latter feature was commented upon by the late Mr. Charles Baily some years ago. In stone buildings,



FIG. 5.

he said, the stairs were often found uniting the thickness of the walls, "as we see at Hever Castle, in Kent, and at the Guildhall of the City of London." The height of the Crypt at this eastern doorway, from pavement to groining, is 16 feet 9 inches (elsewhere it averages 13 feet 7 inches), in consequence of the elevation of the centre bay; and each contiguous side bay has the end of the ridge rib at the wall arch raised 1 foot

from the level. This arrangement produces more freedom in the appearance of the east end, and an effect aided by the arched door-head, as though of an earlier period of architecture. This impression probably led Mr. J. Brewer, at the meeting of the British Archaeological Association in 1851, erroneously to describe this doorway as "an Early English arched entrance in good preservation," whereas it is a Perpendicular Gothic example of the purest character. The new Library buildings are indicated in the illustration (Fig. 5).

A small recess in the east wall of this Crypt gives rise to some speculation as to its original purpose. It is situate 9 inches south of the right centre wall pillar and 3 feet 6 inches from the pavement. The inside measurement is  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 17 inches high, and is sunk  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches from the face. The head is elliptic, and a small hollow moulding finishes the aris, excepting the bottom, which is square and somewhat rough—indicating the removal of a corbelling or ledge. This small object may have been an aumbry, piscina or stoup—if religious usages may be entertained. This recess is just indicated in the view of the Crypt, next the pillar and doorway at the eastern end.

A large building had formerly been erected, or was in progress, the remains of the walls of which now constitute the basement walls of the western end of the present Hall. But the situation of the eastern wall is undeterminable, as there does not exist any visible remains "in situ," neither any records to determine this point with accuracy.

Western  
Crypt.

There is no evidence that this earlier building had buttresses. Those now existing do not correspond with the axes of the engaged piers of the earlier building, neither are the window-openings equi-distant between the buttresses, so it may be surmised that the latter were set out regardless of the earlier plan, regularity of centering being unimportant as regards the already existing Western Crypt, utilisation of the external walling being the primary consideration. The wall arches, the piers with springers, and the windows indicate the remains of five bays longitudinally (with the exceptions hereinafter mentioned), and it may be considered that this Crypt also had three aisles transversely. In the west wall a window is visible at the end of the north and south aisles, and a doorway may be presumed to have occupied the centre. There cannot be a doubt but that the area of the Western Crypt was vaulted, and that octagonal pillars, 2 feet in diameter, corresponding with the wall responds, supported the ribs and groining, and consequently the floor of the Hall above. An interesting example of such an octagonal pier, about 2 feet diameter, of plain mediæval character, with arches springing from it without the intervention of a capital, was exposed on the site of Messrs. Child's Bank, at Temple Bar, in 1879.<sup>1</sup>

The date of this Western Crypt may be attributed to the 14th century, and possibly as early as the second quarter of that period, as the mouldings of the window jambs and the tre-foil heads, and also, the octagonal piers, are somewhat indicative of the style then prevalent.

Probably, the great Fire of London in 1666 so damaged the western vaulting that it was found desirable to remove it. The decline of Gothic architecture and the necessity

<sup>1</sup> See paper by F. G. H. Price, F.S.A., in the "London and Middlesex Archaeological Society's Transactions," vol. vi, p. 231.

for speedy reparation may account for the building of the brick walls and vaults which now fill up the Western Crypt, and provide the bed for the pavement of the Hall above.

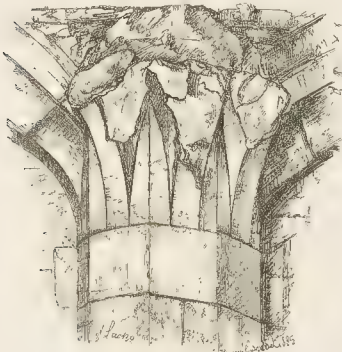


FIG. 6.

both from the north wall, to which the pier is attached. It is about a semi-octagon, 2 feet wide, and 1 foot 2 inches projection, and is 6 feet 10 inches in height to the bed of



FIG. 7.

is set upon a sub-plinth ; in all, 17 inches high. Piers, 13 feet 7 inches apart.

Additional piers were built in the side-walls. These are observable in the illustration on each side of the vaulting pillar. They are bedded upon a roughly-shaped

These walls are generally built of red brick, having blocks of stone, chalk, &c., irregularly laid in them, more especially in the base, evidently the debris of mediæval walling ; a not unusual method subsequent to the Great Fire. The level of the pavement or floor of this Crypt is about one foot higher than the surface of the Eastern Crypt ; and the present pavement may be considered as the original level. The difference is met by an inclination in the passage-way.

The vaulting piers, springers, and wall ribs, are important features. They are delineated in the two illustrations (Figs. 6 and 7) the pillars and arches, and the detail of the springers,

the spring-block, which is 2 feet 3 inches in height, composed of a group of five ribs, which simply die into the plain faces of the pier with a slight curve. Three are  $10\frac{1}{2}$  by  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches, with a 7-inch hollowed-chamfer moulding, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch soffit. The wall ribs are continued on each side, and are four-centered. They are  $10\frac{1}{2}$  by  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches soffit, with similar mouldings. The plinth



stone-base, and are without plinths. In relation to the vaulting piers they are irregularly disposed, being governed probably by a necessity to add vertical supports inside, to carry the superimposed weight, and for accession of strength in the erection of the engaged piers of the present Hall. Four are visible on the north side, and two on the south. The face of the walling generally is shown in the illustration. It is masonry roughly ashlar, the lower portion of the wall appears to be of an inferior character. The rubble face, observable over the arches, is a portion of the core above the springing of the groins, which constituted also the filling of the haunches.

Numerous windows are recognisable in the side and west-end walls corresponding with the centres of the bays. They have been altered or filled up. Those visible have two lights only, having arched heads with cusped tre-foils; 2 feet openings divided by a centre mullion  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep. Figs. 8 and 9 are illustrations. The



FIG. 8.



FIG. 9.

height is about 5 feet 3 inches. The jambs, up to the springing (on the outside), are simply double-splayed from wall face to the side jamb opening of the light. At the springing externally these splays are converted into hollow mouldings forming two orders, by the introduction of two 2-inch fillets. The outer order is vertical to 1 foot  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The second order turns into the arched heads of the lights with a hollow moulding. The reveals of the centre mullion and side jambs are 5 inches deep with



mortices for the bars and grooves for glass. The side eyes and centre spandrel are not sunk through, the back showing a plain face. These windows are without drip-stones, and they are set forwards towards the outer face of the wall. The entire thickness is 1 foot 7 inches, and the depth of the recess inside, 2 feet 5 inches, making 4 feet thickness of wall.

The back or inside face of the window-lights has simply arched heads and mullions, &c., set before the 5-inch reveals  $2\frac{1}{2}$  by 2 inches forming a square sinking, and leaving a fillet  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide as noted to the East Crypt windows so the inside presents a bare and unfinished appearance, and forms a square rebate as shown in the illustrations. The apices of the heads of the window lights of the two Crypts are level. A shutter was probably intended to close on the rebate, and a similar fitting would be applicable to the east lights. Immediately west of the block of springers (Fig. 10) is an interesting group of remains of the earlier Crypt. A projection of the wall into the building, probably being the basement of a turret of hexagonal plan, has a doorway with moulded jambs and arched head, the opening 6 feet 9 inches high and 2 feet 9 inches wide. Black hardstone steps, about 3 feet 3 inches wide, extend south about 10 feet between stone ashlar walls, where the way is blocked. This may have been a passage of communication between the Crypt and an external building or area. Adjoining is a pier and portion of an arch abutting against the turret, with corresponding arch, all belonging to the vaulting westward. A single-light window with tre-foil head (also blocked up) is contiguous, its opening being 4 feet 9 inches high and 2 feet 9 inches wide, with inner arch and weathered sill. This window is deeply recessed from the inner face of the wall, with flat segmental head. The masonry is a well-preserved example of the earlier Crypt, with the exception of the window, which is much decayed. With reference to the vaulting ribs dying into the pier without the intervention of a capital, an interesting example may be mentioned which is described in a foreign work. Reference is there made to an illustration of a pier and springing of ribs from St. Lo, Normandy, circa 1450. French Gothic was, probably, a century later than English. "At the meeting of the 'Société Française pour la Conservation des Monuments,' held at Rennes in August, 1849, M. de Caumont, a high authority, publicly acknowledged that the greater part of the buildings usually assigned by French antiquaries to the eleventh century were really of the twelfth, etc."<sup>1</sup>

This example, and that previously noted, of a group of arches, &c., discovered during the excavations for Messrs. Child's Bank at Temple Bar in 1879, are offered without reference to the question of dates.<sup>2</sup> "These forms (*i.e.* circular and octagonal) are very common throughout the Early English and Decorated periods,"<sup>3</sup> and "the occasional absence of moulded work in the latter style frequently extended itself to the piers which were simply octagonal and carried plain chamfered arches in buildings whose details, in other respects, testify to the care that was bestowed upon them."<sup>4</sup> Flush with the inside face of the wall each opening is arched over with a drop-rib; between

<sup>1</sup> "An introduction to the Study of Gothic Architecture," Oxford and London. John Henry Parker, 1849, pp. 234-239.

<sup>2</sup> "Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society," vol. vi, 1883, p. 231.

<sup>3</sup> "A Manual of Gothic Mouldings," F. A. Paley, M.A., 1845.

<sup>4</sup> Brandon's "Analysis of Gothic Architecture," vol. i, p. 80.

the back of the window and this, is a stone arched soffit. From the soffit to drop is 2 feet 4 inches. The quoins of the opening are of large stones, the reveals filled in with ashlar, and the sill of the opening is composed of squared stone. The wall under the same is 4 feet high. The plinth of one of the great buttresses appears close up to the window jamb, irregularly placed as before described. The west window, next the north turret, has one of the jambs worked with the hollow-chamfer down to the sill, the other being left unfinished. Both the jambs are splayed only. The one on the left-hand is incomplete.

The south wall appears to have differed from the opposite wall, the wall-arches at the east-end being absent. Opposite to the last north pier is inserted in the wall a group of three spring-stones, differently planned to the other vaulting ribs, these



blocks, collectively about 5 feet long and 2 feet 4 inches high, are properly jointed together, and each have a springer. They are on one plane, flat on face, and appear to be "in situ," deposited on the top is a mass of chalk, the residue of the filling in of the haunches of the vaulting. There is a centre rib, and one on each side, set diagonally from the middle arch. The centre rib is 11 inches in width and 6 inches in depth, with hollow chamfers, the others are 11 by 11 inches, also hollow-

chamfered, and appear to be segmental. It may be surmised that at this corner there was a different, probably a still earlier, structure of Norman or semi-Norman date, as the vaulted base of a tower or porch (the present porch is exactly contiguous) which formed part of the building now under consideration. Above the blocks will be observed regular ashlar and level courses. Probably a porch or chamber was here, which would account for the more regular face. Differences of opinion have arisen among architects and antiquaries, not only as to the date to which the construction of the Crypt is to be referred, but likewise as to the purposes to which it was originally devoted. Some authorities consider the eastern portion to be the undercroft of the Hall itself, others view it as having been connected with the early Chapel, and there are strong reasons for the latter opinion. The following observations upon this view of the matter have been carefully prepared and kindly furnished by Alfred White, F.S.A., whose long experience in the study of the construction of early buildings entitle them to consideration.

"The Crypts or undercrofts of ancient buildings are always interesting portions of such structures, and they should be carefully studied and examined, for in them we of necessity find indications of the earliest structure above ground, and not unfrequently of the building which preceded it, and we may be enabled, by the arrangement of the

subterranean building, to determine the plan of what was first placed above it, and sometimes even the nature and use of what has been long destroyed.

"Beneath the western portion of Guildhall we see a Crypt, which, from the confused arrangement of the columns and the springing of the vaulting at its side walls, has evidently provided the supports to the pavement of at least two Halls, but of any columns to support the centre of the floor we are unable to discover a trace—longitudinal and cross walls of brick and stone mixed, with vaults all in brickwork, and of a very rough character, here carry the pavement of the Great Hall.

"When we arrive at the eastern part of the Crypt, we find it separated from the western section by a wall three feet thick, running across from north to south, with a doorway in its centre, with all the arrangements of an external entrance, the hooks for the hinges of the door, and the rabbet against which it shut, remaining perfect to the present day. Within this enclosure all is in order, and we see two rows of clustered columns, which, with engaged clusters against the four walls, support the ribs of three beautiful vaults running east and west, which are crossed by four intersecting vaults running in the opposite direction. We are naturally led to enquire: Did this arrangement run through the whole Crypt at any time? Was it intended to extend such a Crypt beneath the whole of the Hall? To these enquiries the structure itself answers in the negative. Had the first proposition ever been carried out, would a strong external wall have been constructed at the western end of the work? And, had the extension of such a Crypt been contemplated, would the western clusters of columns have been built into the western wall, as finished responds, which could not easily be converted into clusters for the progress of the work westward?

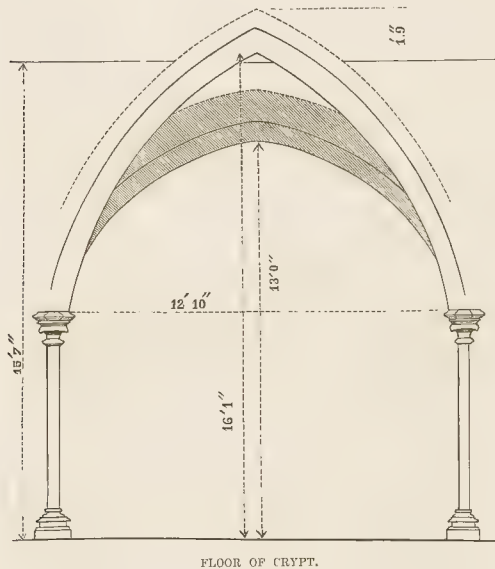
"All these circumstances seem to favour the idea that this Eastern Crypt was originally beneath a portion of the Guildhall, divided from the rest of the building, or that it belonged to a distinct structure, and there are indications of great alterations carried out to adapt it to the present Hall. Against the eastern wall of the Crypt is a rib which belongs to the original vaulting, and at its centre it rises 16 feet 1 inch above the present pavement of the Crypt, but from this the central ridge rib drops gradually, until at the next bay it is about 13 feet high, and the rest of the Eastern Crypt maintains the same elevation. Another proof of the alteration in the height is found at the side windows, the heads of which are carried up to the original level, but a drop arch of 3 feet 4 inches is placed before each window, and this ranges with the present height of the Crypt, hiding from view a portion of the tracery in the window heads.

"If we carefully examine the present vaulting of the Eastern Crypt we shall find, in parts, irregularity in the curve of the arches, and especially in the stone immediately above the caps. This stone could not readily be taken out of its place, and the alteration in the curve has not been effected with the accuracy that we find in the other portions of the arches, where the stones have been re-worked when they were detached.

"The vaulting rib against the east wall affords also a clear proof that the original vaulting could not have been placed beneath the pavement of the present Hall, for that is only 15 feet 7 inches above the floor of the Crypt, and even the lower side of this rib, which is 16 feet 1 inch above the Crypt floor, would have



appeared about 6 inches above the Hall pavement, and its upper part now projects about 1 foot 9 inches, and creates the necessity for the raised floor at the east end of the Hall.



"In the wood-cut the relative positions of the floor of the Crypt, and the pavement of the Hall are shown. The columns and arches in outline represent the wall rib at the east end of the Crypt, the arch with darker shading, the vaulting ribs of the rest of the Crypt, and the dimensions given will assist to illustrate what is described above.

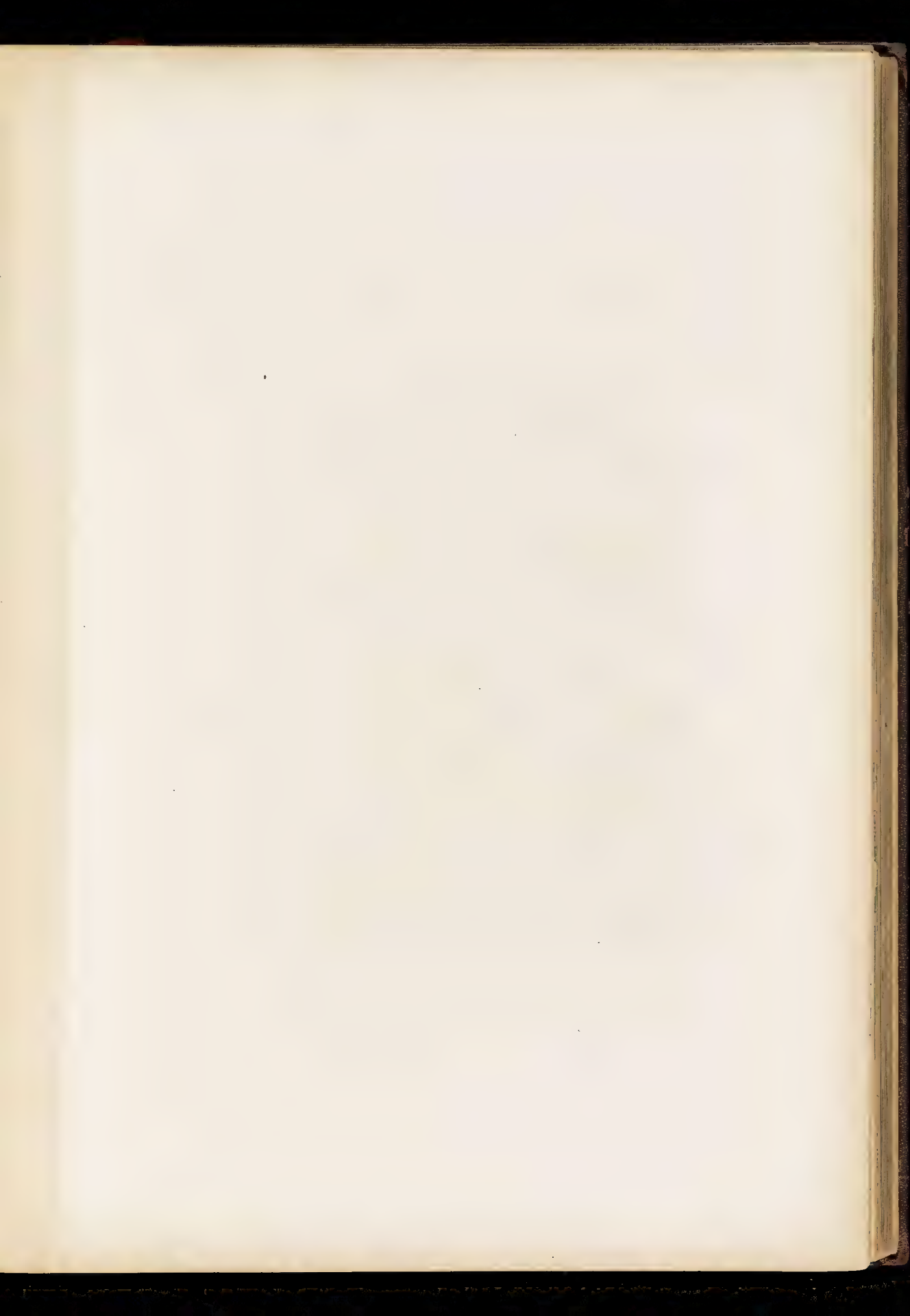
"So far we have endeavoured to show that the Crypt at the east end of Guildhall, has undergone very considerable alterations since its original construction, that it was not then designed as the support of the present pavement, and that the pitch of the vaults was lowered by reconstruction to adapt it to its present use. The vaults, if they had remained throughout

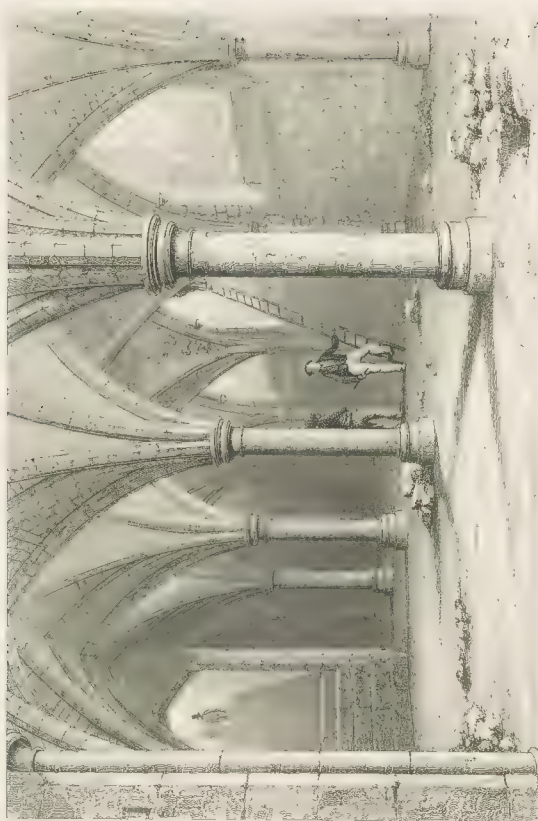
in harmony with the eastern wall rib, would agree better with a work of the end of the 13th or the beginning of the 14th century, than with one of the commencement of the 15th century (1411), which is the period of the building of the present Hall. The caps of the clustered columns, which support the vaults, are such as were in use at the earlier period, having the lower part above the necking considerably undercut, but if we examine the capitals of the *doorway arch inserted beneath the wall rib*, we have what agrees well with such caps as were in use in 1411.

"This Crypt in its original state, in many respects, resembled the elegant one under Gerard's Hall, which formerly occupied a site beneath what is now the roadway of Canon Street, near to the Church of St. Mildred, Bread Street, and this was clearly a work of about 1300. This Crypt was beneath a spacious hall, which Stow<sup>1</sup> says, in his time, was altered by divers rooms made in it, and that it was then a 'common hostery for receipt of travellers.' We read, that between the years 1245 and 1386, it was the property of Sir John Gisors, Knight, Mayor of London, and Constable of the Tower, and his family; and from the marks found on the stonework of the Crypt, when it was removed, it appeared to have been in possession of merchants, and probably used as a store for their goods. All that was above ground disappeared at the Great

<sup>1</sup> Stow's "Survey," p. 130.







Fire in 1666, and afterwards an extensive Inn was erected over the Crypt, and it was used, until its destruction in 1852, as the wine cellar for this establishment. At this time an accumulation of earth reached about half way up its columns, by which their bases were entirely obscured, but this was removed by order of the Corporation of London, and for some time the public were enabled freely to enjoy a view of this perhaps unsurpassed specimen of Early English art, and before it was taken down, every stone was carefully numbered to facilitate its reconstruction.

"Many schemes were suggested for its preservation, amongst others (by the late Thomas Lott, F.S.A.) that it should be placed beneath Guildhall, adjoining the Crypt, which we now explore, but the Corporation were led to comply with a request from the projectors of the Crystal Palace to remove it there, upon the promise that it should be carefully re-built as it had appeared in London. This stipulation was disregarded, and the carefully numbered stones of the Crypt were broken up to compose the bodies of the antediluvian monsters then about to be constructed in the gardens of the Palace.

"For comparison, sections of the caps of the columns which supported the vaults of Gerard's Hall Crypt (Fig. 1), and of those in Guildhall (Fig. 2), and of the doorway



Fig. 1.  
GERARD'S HALL.



Fig. 2.  
EAST CRYPT, GUILDHALL.



Fig. 3.  
EAST DOORWAY.

arch beneath the wall rib (Fig. 3), are here given. It will be seen that the vaulting caps agree generally, and especially in the undercutting before mentioned, but this is not found in the section of the *caps of the door arch beneath the eastern wall rib*. The view of the Gerard's Hall Crypt,<sup>1</sup> which appears in the present volume, is from a drawing by that talented artist, the late Frederick Mackenzie, and was engraved by J. H. Le Keux.

"Seeing that the style of the Crypt of Guildhall is not in harmony with that of the Hall above it, we must endeavour to discover under what circumstances the Hall was placed above the Crypt. There are grounds for assigning the site of the *early Guildhall* to the west of the present building, and also to show that the new work exceeded the former in extent.

"Stow places the ancient Guildhall in Aldermanbury, and says, 'I myself have seen the ruins of the old Court Hall, in Aldermanbery Street, which of late hath been employed as a carpenter's yard, &c.,'<sup>2</sup> and when the houses were lately re-built opposite to

<sup>1</sup> Lent by Alfred White, F.S.A.

<sup>2</sup> Stow's "Survey," p. 109.

St. Mary's Church in Aldermanbury, such a doorway was brought to light, in Three Nuns' Alley, as might have belonged to the old Hall. Fabian tells us that so considerable were the additions in the re-building in 1411, that 'was made of a little cottage, a large and great house.' Therefore, as at least part of the original site was abandoned, and, at the same time, the dimensions of the new work were to be greatly extended, additional space must be somehow provided, and this we can show was secured in the following manner."

The Chapel.

There had existed by Guildhall, certainly as early as 1280, a Chapel, which was used by the Corporation when they met on public business, and for other purposes, and by license of Edward III, Adam Fraunceys and Peter Fanlore had permission to convey a piece of land, on the southern side of Guildhall, for the erection of residences for the Custos and Chaplains of this College, and such houses were accordingly built and occupied. This arrangement continued until 1429 (when the building of the new Guildhall was still in progress), but it was then discovered that the Chapel "had become too small for the requirements of the citizens flocking to hear divine worship," and that there was no piece of ground near the Guildhall, which was suitable for a new Chapel, except that on which the old Messuage, occupied by Sir John Bernard then Custos, and the Chaplains of the College, stood. Henry VI therefore, in 1429, granted letters patent to pull down the old Chapel and to erect a new one where the old residences of the Custos and Priests stood (on the south side of Guildhall), and to build houses for the clergy on a site to the north. Accordingly the old Chapel was taken down, the new one was erected to the south of Guildhall, and remained there until 1820, but as the Crypt beneath the old Chapel was substantial, elegant, and desirable for the new work it remained, and with the *needed alterations* to fit it to the new level of the floor above, is the present Eastern Crypt. Indications of the foundations of mediæval buildings were noted at the time the excavations were in progress for the erection of the new Council Chamber. They may, perhaps, be referred to the residences above mentioned.

This sacred edifice was situate in close proximity to the Hall. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen and All Saints. As to the foundation of the building, there are certain discrepancies of opinion, owing to the historians who quote Stow, having been led into error through misreading what he really has written upon the subject. Strype,<sup>1</sup> in his edition of the work, Speed,<sup>2</sup> and others, say that the Chapel was founded as early as the year 1299, by three pious citizens, Peter Fanlore, Adam Frauncis, and Henry Frowicke. Newcourt<sup>3</sup> adds to the confusion when, considering these authorities to be mistaken, he post-dates the foundation 69 years. "The charter of the founders," says Allen,<sup>4</sup> "bore the date on the morrow of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, 1368, 42 Edward III. It was under the seals of Francis and de Frowicke, the other co-founder having been dead some time, and was confirmed on the day of execution by Simon Sudbury, Bishop of London."

In his assertion that the Chapel was built about the year 1299, Stow is accurate enough; but it is in associating the individuals above-mentioned with the first building

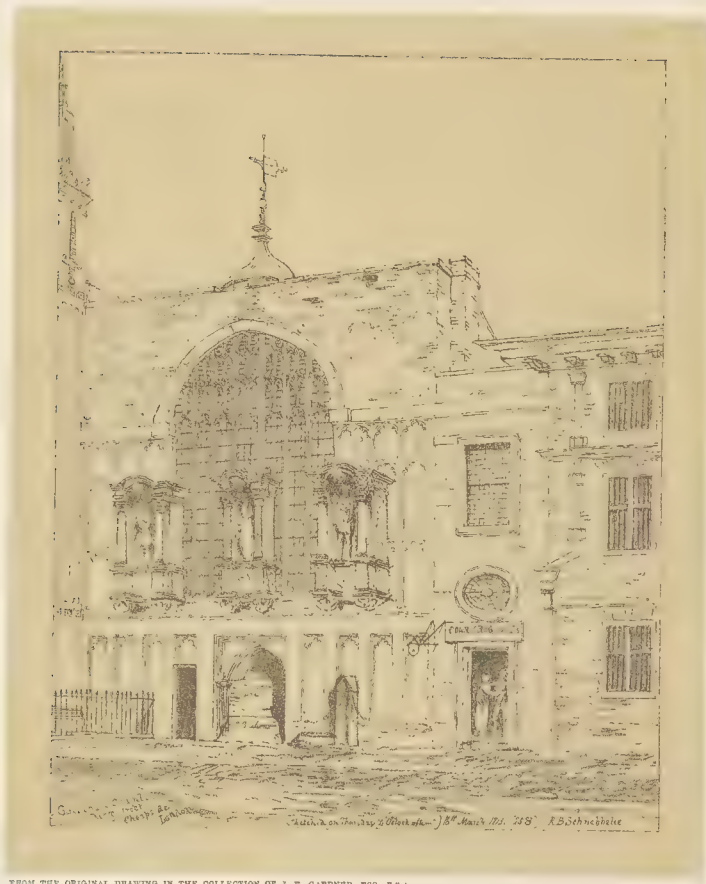
<sup>1</sup> Stow's "Survey"—Strype's Edition, 1754, vol. i, p. 560.

<sup>2</sup> Speed's "Historie of Great Britaine," book ix, p. 1062b. This writer says "Peter Stambery," instead of "Fanlore."

<sup>3</sup> Newcourt's "Repertorium," vol. i, p. 361.

<sup>4</sup> Allen's "History and Antiquities of London," vol. iii, p. 101.





FROM THE ORIGINAL DRAWING IN THE COLLECTION OF J. E. GARDNER, ESQ., F.S.A.



he is in error, their connection with the Chapel not taking place until about the year 1352-3, 27 Edward III, which, as will be seen from the original document, quoted below, had nothing to do with the erection of the building, but with the foundation of certain chantries in that already existing. This can be shown by the civic records, for it appears that on a certain day, viz., on Monday, the morrow of the Holy Trinity, in 1299, 27 Edward I, a Court of Common Pleas was held, at which "Henry le Waleys gave and granted unto the Brethren of the Pui 5 marks of yearly quit rent, to be received from all his tenements in London, towards the support of one Chaplain celebrating divine service in the *new Chapel at the Guildhall of London*."<sup>1</sup> Mr. Riley<sup>2</sup> considers that this entry was probably made in the latter part of the succeeding reign. The Society referred to was a Brotherhood of French and English traders in London, united for certain charitable purposes, and the cultivation of music and poetry, the original Society having been formed at the City of Puy, in Auvergne. In the *Liber Custumarum*<sup>3</sup> there is a code of their rules and regulations, from which we gather that the Society had received from the City great privileges in respect of the Chapel of St. Mary near Guildhall. "Hence this donation in its favour by Sir Henry le Waleys, who had been Mayor both of London and Bordeaux; and in this latter capacity would no doubt have felt an additional interest in this musical society of French merchants and their English friends."<sup>4</sup> Again, in the year 1304, the balance of a fine of 100 shillings was appropriated to the purposes of the Chapel. It was ordered that the money was to be applied to the use of the Chapel of the Blessed Mary of "the Pui," then recently built.<sup>5</sup> From the dates, when the contributions were made, it is clear that the Chapel had been in course of construction some years previously, although there is little reference to it at this period to be found among the records. In the year 1326, 20 Edward II, it was evidently out of repair, and restorations were commenced, but from some cause or other, which does not appear, they were suspended; for we find that at this time Sir John de Stratford, Bishop of Winchester, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, having just taken up his freedom of the City, had occasion to visit the Guildhall on certain business connected with the King, and he observed that the works at the Chapel were at a standstill. Associated with him was Sir Thomas de Wake, Lord of Lidel, and brother-in-law of Edmund, Earl of Kent, who at the time was engaged in the rebellion against King Edward. As a result of the inspection by the Bishop, sufficient timber and lead was granted by the two, as a contribution towards the various requirements of the building. The following is the entry descriptive of the transaction:—

"Be it remembered, that just before the Feast of Christmas, in the twentieth year of the reign of King Edward, son of King Edward, there came to the Guildhall of London Sir John de Stratford, Bishop of Winchester, and Messire Thomas de Wake, Lord of Lidel, on certain business touching our Lord the King and his said City. At which time, among other things, the said Bishop and Messire Thomas saw that after the Chapel annexed to the said Guildhall had been begun to be repaired, the work thereof had been suspended, whereupon they asked the cause of the suspension of the said work. And they were told by Richard de Betoigne, the then Mayor of the City, to this effect, 'By your aid, and that of the other great men of the land, the works at the said Chapel, by God's grace, shall be properly and becomingly prosecuted.' And thereupon the said Messire Thomas de Wake, Lord of Lidel,

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book E, first fly-leaf.

<sup>2</sup> Riley's "Memorials," p. 42.

<sup>3</sup> "Liber Custumarum," p. 216. See also the reference in the Introduction to the same volume, p. xlvij.

<sup>4</sup> Riley's "Memorials," p. 42.

<sup>5</sup> Letter Book C, fol. 84b.

granted timber sufficient for all the work of the said Chapel, and the said Sir John, Bishop of Winchester, granted lead sufficient for the covering thereof. Afterwards the said Sir Thomas de Wake sent sufficient timber for the said Chapel, as above stated."<sup>1</sup>

Some six years later, in the following reign, viz., in that of King Edward III, A.D. 1332, there appears a list of monies then expended by the Corporation. This comprises grants paid out of receipts for murage, etc., presents sent by the Mayor and Aldermen to certain members of the Royal Family, for wines bought and sent to the Chancellor, Treasurer, and other payments. The following are charges associated with the work then in progress at the Chapel. In the entry referred to, Richard de Prestone is mentioned as receiving £14. 12s. 0d. for work executed "at the Chapel of the Guildhall of London." He appears to have been the general builder or contractor employed for sundry purposes at this particular time, for we note that he received from divers men of the City, in the 5th year before mentioned, the expenses contracted by reason of the tournament in Chepe, £88. 12s. 0d. In this particular instance his work would appear to have been at fault, and unadapted to its requirements, for on the occasion referred to, the scaffolding, which was near Bow Church, fell down, Queen Philippa, with her ladies, who were upon it, narrowly escaping serious injury.<sup>2</sup> In the same record is mentioned that one Master Thomas de Canterbury received £6. 17s. 0d., for the work done at the Chepe; Master William de Thurlee, carpenter, 20 shillings; and to the aforesaid Thomas a further payment of £37. 2s. 0d.; and to John de la Rokele, for freestone, 5½ marks.

The next event in chronological sequence of which we have any record is the foundation of the respective chantries by Adam Fraunceys, Mayor, and his two colleagues, Peter Fanlore and Henry Frowick. The original document which is of considerable interest is printed in the Appendix, but the following abstract is sufficiently descriptive for the present purpose:—

"By an inquisition taken before Adam Fraunceys, Mayor of the City of London, and Escheator of the same City, on Tuesday the Feast of S. Barnabas the Apostle, 27 Edward III (1353) in obedience to a writ of *ad quod damnum*, dated May 1, 27 Edward III (1353) it was found that it was not to the damage or prejudice of the King, or others, if royal licence was granted to Peter Fanlore, Adam Fraunceys, and Henry de Frowyk to grant and assign a messuage in the Parish of S. Vedast in Farringdon Ward, London, to William de Brampton, chaplain, guardian of a certain Chantry by them, in the Chapel of the Holy Mary, adjoining to the Guildhall, London, newly founded, and to four other chaplains there celebrating divine service, according to the ordinance of the same Peter, Adam, and Henry for ever.

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book E, fol. 171.

<sup>2</sup> The occasion was one of historic interest. The youthful Edward III, then barely eighteen, accompanied by his still younger wife, the aforesaid Philippa of Hainault, met with this celebrated reception by the citizens shortly after their first son was born. "A great tournament, as part of the entertainments, took place in Cheap, the site adjoining Bow Church, and the platform, there erected for the accommodation of Royalty, was," writes Stow, "like unto a tower; it stood across the road, and it was a portion of what was then a cumbrous sort of structure, which gave way and precipitated some of its occupants on to the heads of the populace below. Some of the ladies who fell were," says the chronicler, "with some shame forced to fall down, by reason whereof the knights, and such as were underneath were grievously hurt." It has been asserted that so great was the indignation of the King at such an accident, that his first impression was to order off the unfortunate builders or contractors for instant execution. There may be some truth in the tradition, for impulsive anger at such an occurrence, and the sense of danger which had been escaped, would be but natural. Stow does not record the fact, but he says, in continuation of his narrative of the event, "the Queen took great care to save the carpenters from punishment, and through her prayers (which she made upon her knees) pacified the King and Council, and thereby purchased great love of the people. Edward further commemorated the occasion by the erection of a shed, strongly made of stone, for himself, the Queen, and other Estates to stand on, and there to behold the joustings and other shows at their pleasure, by the Church of St. Mary Bow." This site selected for this and similar entertainments was what is now Queen Street, a space, in the days of Stow, "between Soper's Lane and the Great Cross."



"Also, that royal licence might be granted to the same Adam Fraunceys and Henry de Frowyk to grant the reversion of a messuage in the parish of St. Giles without Cripplegate, London, held by the same Peter Fanelore for life, to the aforesaid guardian and chaplains for ever.

"Also, that royal licence might be granted to the same Peter Fanlore, Adam Fraunceys, and Henry de Frowyk, to grant the reversion of 8 marks rents in the aforesaid Parishes, held by Margaret, widow of Geoffrey atte Lee, for life to the same guardian and chaplains in aid of their sustentation for ever."

The two messuages were held of the King in free burgage, like all others in the City of London, and they were worth £16. 3s. 4d. a year; but the messuage in the Parish of St. Vedast was subject to the deduction of 53s. 4d. yearly quit rent to the Prior and Convent of St. Mary, without Bishopsgate, London, and 13s. 4d. yearly quit rent to the Prior and Convent of St. Bartholomew, Smithfield, London, and 106s. 8d. yearly quit rent to Margaret, widow of Geoffrey atte Lee, for her life.

The messuage in the Parish of St. Giles without Cripplegate was subject to the deduction of 4s. yearly quit rent to the Prebendary of the More in St. Paul's Cathedral; and for the repairs of the houses belonging to the aforesaid two messuages 60s. a year; and so the two messuages were worth during the life of Margaret £4. 6s. a year, and after her death their value would be £9. 12s. 8d. a year.

The Chapel was collegiate, and became further endowed in the year 1396, 12 Richard II, by Stephen Spelman, who gave over one messuage, three shops, and a garden in the Parish of St. Andrew Hubbard, London, with the sanction of the King, on the consideration of the custos and chaplains paying into the King's hanaper the sum of twenty marks. The property in question was like other City possessions held by Spelman of the King in free burgage, and was to go to the benefit of the said Chapel and to a custos and chaplains and to their successors for their better relief and maintenance for ever. With respect to the "custos" or "keeper" mentioned, he was to be one of the five chaplains, who, according to Newcourt, were to celebrate the divine offices for the health of the founders and their kindred, the royal family, the bishop, and the mayor and sheriffs, while living, and for their souls when dead. After the decease of the founders the Mayor and Chamberlain were to be appointed supervisors. The custos was to receive thirteen, and the four priests each twelve, marks out of the revenues, and the overplus was to be expended in the repairs. The Mayor was to retain forty pence, and the Chamberlain half a mark for their trouble. Stephen Spelman was doubtless an ancestor of Sir John Spelman, who had married into the Frowyke family. He died on the 26th February, 1544, his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Henry Frowyke, of Gunnersbury, surviving him until the 5th November, 1556. His son, Henry, married Francis, the daughter of William Sanders, of Ewell, and was the father of Sir Henry Spelman, the antiquary, who, born in 1562, was knighted by James I. He died at the residence of his son-in-law, Sir Ralph Whitfield, in Barbican, and was buried in Westminster Abbey, October 24th, 1641, by order of the King.

From the City records it would be possible to compile a long list of the names of the various individuals who occupied the offices of custos or keeper, and chaplains at the Chapel. Numerous entries appear as to the filling up of vacancies, caused by death or resignation, and on each occasion when this happened, the necessary application was made to the Bishop of London to sanction the presentation to the office made by the

Mayor and Chamberlain. This arrangement, however, was not to be brought about until after the decease of Peter Fanlore, Adam Fraunceis, and Henry Frowyk, who, in the year 1356, gave no small amount of property for the endowment of a chantry in the Chapel. The entry in the archives, recording this circumstance, is somewhat long, but it is desirable that it should be quoted in full, because it contains interesting references to City localities, to the various boundaries of the area covered by the properties mentioned, and likewise to a fountain, near to the Chapel, which in our day is probably to be identified with the pump opposite to the Sheriff's Court, in Guildhall Buildings. The date of the endowment is 1356, in the 30th year Edward III :—<sup>1</sup>

"Know all persons, present and to come, that we, Peter Fanlore, Adam Fraunceis, and Henry Frowyk, have given, granted, and by this our present deed indented, have confirmed unto William de Brampton, Chaplain and Keeper of a certain Chantry, by us Peter, Adam and Henry, newly founded at the Altar in the Chapel of St. Mary, near to the Guildhall of London, and to the four other Chaplains, who shall there celebrate Divine Service daily, according to our ordinance thereupon to be made, one messuage, together with the shops and sollars thereto adjoining, and all other the appurtenances thereof, in the Parish of St. Vedast, in the Ward of Farndone, in London; which same tenement is called "Horshed" and "Sarazineshed," and is situate between the tenement late belonging to John de Gloucestre, on the West, and the tenements of William de Caustone and John de Bentele, on the East; and of which messuage one head abuts upon the highway of West Chep, to the North, and the other upon the tenement late of the Earl of Gloucester, to the South. We, the aforesaid Peter, Adam and Henry, have also given and granted unto the said Keeper and Chaplains of the Chantry aforesaid, eight marks of rent, with the appurtenances, issuing from the messuage aforesaid, which Margaret, who was the wife of Geoffrey atte Lee, holds of our inheritance for the term of her life, and which are to revert unto us the aforesaid Peter, Adam and Henry, after the death of the same Margaret; the same to remain after the death of the said Margaret, unto the said Keeper and Chaplains of the Chantry aforesaid, and their successors Chaplains thereof. We, the aforesaid Adam and Henry, have also given and granted unto the Keeper and Chaplains of the Chantry aforesaid, one messuage, together with the shops, sollars and cellars thereto adjoining, and with all other the appurtenances thereof, in the Parish of St. Giles without the Gate of Cryplegate, in London; which messuage, the shops excepted, the said Peter holds for the term of his life of our inheritance, and which, after the death of the said Peter, unto us the said Adam and Henry, ought to revert; the same to remain after the death of the same Peter, unto the said Keeper and Chaplains of the Chantry aforesaid, and their successors Chaplains thereof; which same messuage, together with the shops, sollars and cellars thereto adjoining, is situate opposite to the same Gate of Cryplegate, between the tenement of Henry Denecombe on the East, and the tenement of the Prior of Newerk on the West. We, the aforesaid Peter and Adam, have also given and granted unto the said Keeper and Chaplains of the Chantry aforesaid, one messuage, with its appurtenances, and a piece of ground adjoining to the said messuage in the Parish of St. Lawrence Jewry, near to the Chapel of St. Mary, at the Guildhall of London aforesaid, with free ingress and egress between the same messuage and the said Chapel; which messuage, with the piece of land thereto adjoining, contains in length 19 king's ells, and in breadth 17 ells and three quarters; together with a certain fountain there, and also one moiety of a certain latrine, with free ingress and egress to and from the same which [the said fountain and latrine] are situate between the said messuage and Chapel, as in the Charter of the Mayor, and Aldermen, and Commonalty of the same City, made to the same Peter and Adam thereupon, more fully appears; which same messuage is situate between the said Chapel, near to the Guildhall to the North, and Bakewellehalle to the South; and of which messuage the head extends towards Bakewellehalle to the East, and the other end towards the street which runs towards the said Guildhall of the said City, to the West. To have and to hold all the aforesaid tenements, with the shops, sollars and cellars, and all other their appurtenances, together with the reversion of the messuage aforesaid, which the said Peter holds for the term of his life, and also the reversion of the aforesaid eight marks of rent, which the said Margaret atte Lee holds for the term of her life, and also free ingress and egress to and from the said fountain, and moiety of the said latrine, to them the said Keeper and Chaplains of the Chantry aforesaid, and their successors Chaplains, in aid of their maintenance for ever; and according to the force, form and effect of the charters of licence of our Lord the King obtained, as to the said messuages and shops, made thereupon unto the aforesaid Peter, Adam and Henry, and also to the said Keeper and Chaplains, and as in the same is more fully contained; and also according to the form, rule,

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book G, fol. 50.

ordinance, and composition, of them Peter, Adam and Henry, in this behalf made more fully may appear. In witness whereof, to one part of this deed indented, remaining with the aforesaid Keeper and Chaplains of the Chantry aforesaid, we, the said Peter, Adam and Henry, have set our Seals. And to the other part of the deed with us remaining, the said Keeper, with the assent and consent of the Chaplains of the Chantry aforesaid, has set his Seal; Simon Fraunceis, being then Mayor of London, Walter Forester, and Thomas de Brandone, Sheriffs of the said City. These being witnesses hereto, Thomas Leggy, Richard Lacer, Simon de Worstede, Alderman John Osekyn, vintner, Thomas Cheyny, mercer, Adam Chipsted, vintner, John Frowyk, apothecary, and many others. Given at the Guildhall of London on the Sunday next after the Feast of All Hallows (1 November), in the year from our Lord's Incarnation 1356, and in the 30th year of the reign of King Edward after the Conquest the Third."

Of the three distinguished individuals above-mentioned viz., Peter Fanelore, Henry de Frowyke, and Adam Fraunceys, something more than a passing notice should be given, inasmuch as they and their respective families had been connected with the municipal life of London from a very early period, and, by the means of various advantageous marriages and prosperity in business, had achieved a high position. Of the first-named, Peter Fanelour or Fanelore, little as yet has been ascertained with the exception that he was possessed of a considerable amount of property, not only in the City, but in various country districts. Although a successful man and with a love for the time-honoured associations of the City—for with such he may be credited, from the interest he appears to have displayed in connection with his colleagues in all appertaining to the Chapel at Guildhall—yet it does not appear that he ever served in any of the municipal offices. His name occurs in the City records, but principally in connection with the matter before us. It is not to be found in the hustings rolls, or in any of the list of City officials. He had property at Edmonton and was so closely associated with that place that he built a Chapel adjacent to the Parish Church. In this he founded a Chantry for two priests and endowed it with a rent-charge of about twenty marks per annum, to be paid out of certain house property in the City of London. No vestige of the Chapel now remains. The Chantry was called after his name and the patronage vested in the vicar. According to Newcourt "it was founded before the year 1385; for, on the 15th March in that particular year, one John Holme was instituted to it, as void by the death of Thomas Byeston, and perhaps on or about the year 1368, at which time the said Peter Fanelore died."<sup>1</sup> Lysons, however, places his death as having occurred in the year 1361.<sup>2</sup> It would seem that both these authorities are inaccurate as to dates, for in the Public Record Office there are certain inquisitions taken upon his death, bearing date 1359–1361, 34 and 35 Edward III.<sup>3</sup> In these occur mention of properties held at Enfield, some at Tonge, in Kent, likewise in Oxfordshire, in addition to that already referred to at Edmonton and his house property in the City. For example, by an inquisition dated 20 October, 1360, 34 Edward III, we find that Peter Fanelore, deceased, and Adam Franceys, surviving, held jointly certain tenements in Edelmeton, worth £10 a year, and at Tottenham and Enfield, from the gift and grant of John atte Berne and John Organ. It is also recorded that Peter Fanelore died 4 October last, 1360, and Gregory Fanelore is his kinsman and next heir, aged 40 years. A further interesting reference is to an inquisition taken at Sittingbourne 30 October, 1360, 34 Edward III; he is there mentioned as having held the manor of Tonge, above referred to, for his life, from the grant of William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton, and Elizabeth his

<sup>1</sup> Newcourt's "Repertorium," vol. i, p. 599.

<sup>2</sup> Lyson's "Environs of London," vol. ii, p. 268.

<sup>3</sup> Esch. 34 Edward III, No. 50.

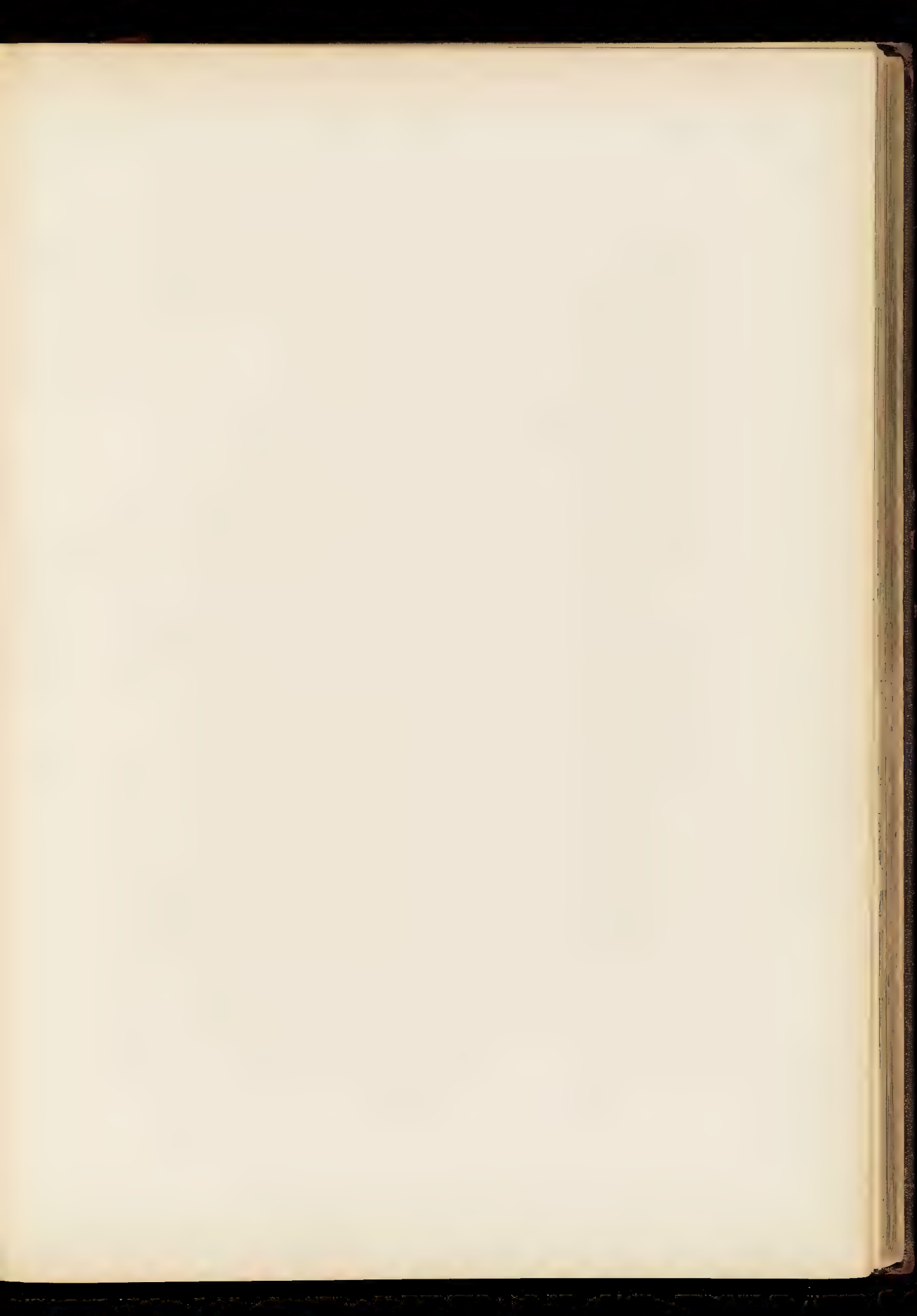


wife. Again, with regard to his Oxfordshire property, an inquisition was taken at Oxford in the following year, and from it we learn that he held the Manor of Bygenhalle in Oxfordshire for life, from the grant of William de Bohun, the Earl above mentioned. It is, therefore, apparent that he was the owner of a considerable amount of landed property at the time of his decease. The date of the endowment of the Chantry at Guildhall is the 1st November, 1356, therefore his death must have occurred shortly after his co-operation in its foundation with his colleagues, Adam Fraunceis and Henry Frowyk. He was evidently closely connected with them, perhaps by ties of family relationship, certainly by commercial transactions in the City, for it appears by the document subsequently given, relative to the endowment mentioned, that part of the property situated in the Parish of St. Giles, Cripplegate, was held by him for the term of his life, and that at his decease it was to revert to the aforesaid Fraunceis and Frowyk. He was evidently a successful man, and—from the interest taken, not only in the Chapel at Guildhall, but in one founded by himself at Edmonton—one of the many, who, in accordance with the feelings of the time, endeavoured in such manner to mark their sense of gratitude in a religious fashion for the prosperity enjoyed, to make their possessions a blessing to their successors, and, as has been well said by a recent writer, to keep “memory green and to set an example of benevolence as well as of thrift to those who shall come after.”

Adam Francis or Fraunceys, was a neighbour of his colleague, Peter Fanlore; he held the Manor of Edmonton in the year 1370, having purchased it from William, the fourth Lord Say. He was popular in the City, and had been chosen as Mayor in the year 1352, and again in 1356. His landed possessions had, however, been purchased without the King's license. An inquisition, *ad quod damnum*, was therefore taken in 1368–9, 43 Edward III, to enquire whether it would be to the prejudice of the King if Adam Francis should enfeoff Robert Belknap and John Wroth of the Manor to the intent that they should grant it to Francis and his heirs. This arrangement, as shown by the public records, was carried out, and the large quantity of land comprised within the purchase was granted to Sir Adam Francis.<sup>1</sup> His eldest son, however, died in his infancy, and his daughter, Matilda, became heiress. She was thrice married, first to John Aubrey; secondly, to Sir Alan Buxhull; and, lastly, to John Montacute (Earl of Salisbury), by whom she became mother of Thomas (the last Earl of that family). Elizabeth (a daughter of Sir Adam Francis) married Sir Thomas Charlton (Lord of the Manor), who died in the year 1447. Norden mentions their tomb as being in the old Parish Church. It bore upon it the family Arms, viz.: “A chevron between three swans for Charlton, and, per bend sinister, a lion rampant for Francis.” Weever also refers to it, and gives the inscription which in his time it bore, “Hic iacent corpora Thome Carleton quondam Domini istius ville qui obiit, 21 Feb., 1447, et Elisabethe uxoris eius filie Ade Francis Militis per quam habuit dominium.” “This Tombe,” he continues, “as most of the Monuments in this Church is shamefully defaced: the Inhabitants deliuer by tradition, that this Carleton was a man of great command in this Countie, and that Sir Adam Francis, his father-in-law here nominated, was Lord Maior of London, about the yeare 1353, and one of the Founders of Guild Hall Chappell or Colledge to the said Hall adioyning.”<sup>2</sup> The epitaph on the grave

<sup>1</sup> See Esch. 1 Edward IV, No. 39.    <sup>2</sup> Esch. 43 Edward III, pt. 2, No. 22, cl. 45 Edward III. M. 25 dors.







# WYKES OF OLD FOLD, &c.

Prowyke, goldsmith, of Hetch - Idonia.  
 n. Surrey. Will proved 1323.  
 L. Aliemun of Langbourn  
 (Kath. MS. 538 f. 203.)

John de Wyke of  
 of Betchworth,  
 ob. s.p.

Henry Gloucester, lord of Winc-  
 bury, in co. Middlesex, who had  
 lands in Wilkeson.

Richard Cornwall of - John Gloucester,  
 Wilkeson. dau. and heir.

John Cornwall - Elizabeth,  
 of Wilkeson.

Agnes, - Sir Adam Fraunceys, Margaret, ob. 23 Hen.  
 VI. 2nd wife.  
 14 June 1416.

Prowyke, 3rd son of  
 Richard Barnett or Barreth.  
 Barnett or Barreth, ob. s.p.

Sir Thomas de Frowyke - Joan, dau. and heiress  
 of Gunnersbury, pur-  
 chased, Durbins of  
 Henry Frowyke, Will  
 proved 10 Nov. 1485.  
 Bur. at Ealing.

Joan, dau. and heiress  
 of Sir Thomas de Frowyke,  
 ob. 21 Feb. 1467. Bur. at  
 Ealing.

Elizabeth, co-heiress,  
 ob. 18 Feb. 1460-1.  
 29 Hen. VI. Will  
 proved 19 Feb. Bur.  
 at Edmonton.

Agnes, co-heiress,  
 m. Sir Wil-  
 liam Porter, ob.  
 s.p. 1 Edw. IV.

Thomas, a son.

Elizabeth Will  
 proved 10 Feb.  
 1556-7. d. s. 5  
 Nov. 1539.

Sir John Spelman, Mary,  
 Will proved 8 Feb.  
 1544. d. 28 Feb.

Princess Frowyke, - Sir Thomas Cheney, K.P., d. Dec. 1558. - Anne, dau. and co-heiress of Sir William  
 of Richmond, bur. at Winter, co. Kent. Sir John Broughton of  
 before 1518, bur. Hawke, Kent.  
 at Minster, Isle of 1559.  
 Sheppey.

Henry, created Lord 1559. - John, dau. of Thomas Jane, dau. and co-heiress, Andrew - Elizabeth, - John J. Williams  
 Cheney d.s.p. 1587. Lord Wentworth. mar. Sir Thomas Wiat. of Thame, 2nd hus.  
 Goodwin.  
 d. 14 Oct. 1559.

John, Sir Henry Spelman, the - Edward, chd. dau. and co-heiress  
 antiquary, b. 1662.  
 Knighted by James I. Apr. 1590, d. 24 July 1590.  
 Bur. at Westminster Abbey, 24 Oct. 1641.

Anne, mar. Sir Thomas Shirley, knight of Watson  
 Neston, co. Sussex.

Alfred, mar. Sir James Hales.

Margaret, - Sir William Cromer of  
 1st wife. Tunstall, co. Kent, ob.  
 12 May, 1638, at 57.  
 Sheriff of Kent, 9 and  
 17 Hen.

Henry Coningsby, esq. Margaret. Griseld. Elizabeth, mar. Thomas Mowtis, esq.  
 Anne. Helen, mar. Robert Thompson, esq.  
 Mary, mar. John Saunders, esq.  
 Blanche, mar. William Wendy, esq.

Sir Clement Spelman, d. s. p. of Gunners-  
 bury in 1607.

Sir John Spelman, d. s. p. 1643.

Clement Spelman, Baron of  
 the Exchequer, d. 1678.

John, Walter. Robert Coningsby. Marten Button. John Button.

James, Elizabeth. - Thomas Williams.

(A) Arms of Frowyke of Old Fold

- 1. Frowyke.
- 2. Adrian.
- 3. Pons.
- 4. Dartan.
- 5. Cornwall.
- 6. Gloucester.
- 7. Ash.
- 8. Somersham.
- 9. Knolles.
- 10. Troutbeck.
- 11. More.
- 12. Hulse.
- 13. Moberley.



(B) Arms of Frowyke of Gunnersbury.

- 1. Frowyke.
- 2. Adrian.
- 3. Pons.
- 4. Dartan.
- 5. Cornwall.
- 6. Gloucester.
- 7. Sturgeon.





of the infant son of Sir Adam included mention of a sister who likewise died in infancy. "Adam et Elisabeth les Infants Mounseur Adam Franceys iesent icy; Dieu de son almes eit mercy."<sup>1</sup>

The Arms of Sir Adam, as given in an interesting Roll of Arms of the reign of Richard II were "Per bend sinister *sable* and *or*, a lion rampant counterchanged."<sup>2</sup>

Henry de Frowyke, the last of the three "pious citizens" who were associated with the history of the Chapel, belonged to a distinguished family, one that enjoyed a long and creditable connection with the municipal life of London at this early period. The name, long since lost sight of in the annals of both civic and country history is, so far as has been ascertained, first met with in the reign of Edward I, when Henry de Frowyke, Pepperer and Alderman was appointed custos of the City in the year 1272, and in 1275 was elected Sheriff. His immediate ancestors were the possessors of Old Fold, in the Parish of South Mimms. A moated site on the edge of Hadley Green is presumed to have been the locality where at one time stood the Manor house. A glance at the accompanying pedigree will show the varied and distinguished alliances made from time to time by different members of the family, as do the respective Coats of Arms, which, commencing with its own, are included in the family shield. In it may be likewise noted how the connection came about between Henry de Frowyke and Sir Adam Fraunceys.



There are also other familiar names, for example, Sir Thomas Knolles, Mayor in the years 1399 and 1410. His Arms and Crest were at one time depicted in the east window of the Mayor's Court; they may be identified in the Frowyke shield. In the annexed illustration, copied from one of the Lansdowne MSS., the crest is given. The Arms are *azure* semé of crosses crosslet *or* a cross moline voided of the last. Crest—a stag's head *or* between two wings *azure*.<sup>3</sup>

It may be observed that at the head of the Pedigree stands the name of John Adrian, and that it was his son and heir whose daughter married one, Thomas de Frowyke, of Old Fold. The name of Adrian is one to some extent familiar in the early history of London, and the two here mentioned are doubtless to be associated with John Adrian, the first member of the Vintners' Company who held the office of Mayor for two consecutive years, viz., in 1270 and 1271. Little appears to be recorded concerning him, but, inasmuch as he previously held the office of Sheriff in the years 1258, 1259, and 1267, he must have been a person of some distinction, and one who enjoyed the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens. His Coat of Arms—*Sable*, four escallops meeting in cross *argent*.<sup>4</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Weever's "Funeral Monuments," p. 531.

<sup>2</sup> "A Roll of Arms of the Reign of Richard II"; edited by Thomas Willemet, F.S.A.; p. 18, No. 164.

<sup>3</sup> Lansdowne MS., British Museum, 874; f. 85b. Cf. Harl. MS., 1546; f. 57b.

<sup>4</sup> Copied from "Arms of Lord Mayors and Sheriffs," by William Smith (Rouge Dragon); formerly in the possession of John Gough Nichols, F.S.A. (now in the Bodleian Library, Oxford).

An exhaustive history of the Frowyke family has been written by the Rev. F. C. Cass, M.A., in his admirable work on the Parish of South Mymms.<sup>1</sup> It contains much original information, not only in connection with each branch of the family, but likewise relative to the district in which its members so long resided. In it will be also found the Pedigree from which the annexed copy has been made.

In making the Presentations to any one of the five Chantries at Guildhall Chapel, such as that founded by Peter Fanlore and others, there appears to have been one form adopted, viz., such as the following. It is selected as among the earliest of those recorded, being some thirty years after the endowment mentioned, and one of the first which comes within the jurisdiction of the Mayor and Chamberlain:—

Venerabili in Xpo patri ac dño dño Wiffo Dei grā  
Londōi Epō sui humiles t devoti Jofies Hadlee Major  
Civitať Londōi t Jofies Ussher Canfarius Guyhalde ejus-  
dem Civitať honores t reſencias tanto patri debitas.  
Ad unō cantariam quinq, cantariaꝝ in capella Bñssime  
Marie Virginis de Guyhalda pñca vře dioc p āiabz Rogi  
de Frowyk t Marie uxis sue ac oim fidelū defunctꝝ  
fundať vacanť t ad nřam pñtacionem virtute officij  
nřoꝝ ad pñens spectanť dñm nobis in Xpo dñm Wifm  
Whityn capellanꝝ ydoneu vře paternitati pñtam<sup>9</sup>  
supplicantes humilr t devote quatin' ipm dñm Wifm  
ad dñam Cantar' admittere dignemini t ipsū canōice  
instituire in eadem ceta que vřo in hac pte incumbunt  
officio pastoralis pagē grāiose. In cuj<sup>9</sup> rei testiōm pñent  
sigilla officioꝝ nřoꝝ apposui<sup>9</sup>. Dat' Londōi xvij<sup>9</sup> die  
mensis Novembř anno Dñi milmo ccc<sup>mo</sup> septuagesimo  
nono t anno regni Reg' Ric'i scđi tercio.

Consimul ita missa fuit dño Roberto epō  
Londōi p Niclm Extōi Majorē t Ricm Odyhm Canfariū  
dñe civitatis p dñ Jofie Dangy, capellano p mortem  
Thome Cranle decimo nono die Novembř a<sup>9</sup> Dñi milmo  
ccc<sup>mo</sup> octogesimo sexto t a<sup>9</sup> rī Ricardi scđi decimo.

To the venerable father and lord in Christ,  
the lord William, by the Grace of God, Bishop of  
London, his humble and devout (servants) John Hadlee,  
Mayor of the City of London, and John Ussher,  
Chamberlain of the Guildhall of the same City, the  
honours and reverences due to such a father. To  
one chantry out of the five chantries in the Chapel  
of the most Blessed Mary the Virgin of the Guildhall  
aforesaid, in your diocese, founded for the souls of  
Roger de Frowyk and Mary his wife, and of all  
the faithful departed, vacant, and to our presentation  
by virtue of our offices at present belonging, we do  
present to your fatherhood our beloved in Christ,  
William Whytyn, a fitting chaplain, beseeching humbly  
and devoutly that you would vouchsafe to admit the  
same William to the said chantry, and canonically  
institute him in the same, [and] graciously to perform  
all other matters which rest upon your pastoral office in  
this behalf. In witness of which present matter we  
have placed the seals of our offices. Given at London  
the seventeenth day of the month of November, in  
the year of our Lord One Thousand Three Hundred  
and Seventy-Nine, and in the third year of the reign  
of King Richard the Second.

A similar letter was sent to the lord Robert,  
Bishop of London, by Nicholas Extone, Mayor, and  
Richard Odyham, Chamberlain of the said City, for Sir  
John Dangy, chaplain, on the death of Thomas Cranle,  
the nineteenth day of November, in the year of our  
Lord One Thousand Three Hundred and Eighty-Six,  
and in the tenth year of the reign of King Richard the  
Second.

Some twenty years subsequent to the foregoing, we have an interesting reference to the Chapel in connection with the first election of Richard Whittington to the mayoralty. A more lengthened reference to this incident will be included in our subsequent notice of

<sup>1</sup> "South Mymms," by the Rev. F. C. Cass, M.A., published by the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, 1877. The woodcuts, with several others, have been placed at the disposal of the Library Committee by the Council of the Society.

the respective Lord Mayors, Sheriffs and Courts of Aldermen; but we may here mention, and it is a curious illustration of the religious sentiments of the time, that the election even to the secular office of Chief Magistrate, was not conducted except with the ceremonies of a religious service. It appears from the archives of the Corporation that in the year 1406, 8 Henry IV, that the Mayor, Sir John Woodcok, the Sheriffs, the Aldermen and certain of the more wealthy and substantial of the citizens assembled in the Guildhall, according to custom and usage, for the purpose of electing two Aldermen to be returned to the Court of Aldermen in order that they might choose one to serve the office of Mayor for the ensuing year. Prior to the election it was ordained that a Mass of the Holy Spirit should be first celebrated in the Chapel adjoining the Hall, in order that the commonalty might seek for spiritual direction in their choice. Upon the conclusion of these solemnities, the members of the congregation returned to the Guildhall, and the Mayor, Aldermen and Officers to their Chamber. The Common Sergeant having read out the names of the Aldermen eligible for the office, the congregation present nominated two, viz., Drew Barentin and Richard Whittington. These names being reported to the Mayor and Aldermen, their choice fell upon the afterwards famous Whittington. The Mayor and Aldermen then returned to the Guildhall and reported upon whom their selection had fallen. At this meeting an ordinance was made that previous to all future elections such a religious service should be held, asking for Divine guidance in making a fit and proper selection of a gentleman to hold the important office of Mayor.<sup>1</sup> In addition to the mention of this regulation in the records, it is referred to as follows in the Chronicle of the Grey Friars of London:—"And this yere was furst ordered a masse of the Holy Gost, to be songe solemnly be note every yere at the Yelde-halle Chappelle the same daye the Mayer is chosyn."<sup>2</sup>

A few years later the Chamberlain appears to have been called upon to exercise his authority over the way in which the chaplains were performing their duties. At this time it seems that such were being but very imperfectly executed, for it is recorded that on Friday, 2nd July, 1417, 5 Henry V, it was found, as well by the examination of the keeper and chaplains of the Chapel of the *Guyhalde*, as by the testimony of the Chamberlain and their numerous evidences, that the priests serving in the aforesaid building do, against the form of the foundation for the same, wander about, neglecting their duties (*discurrunt et vagantur officia debita minime facientes*), wherefore the Chamberlain was ordered to seize into the hands of the City all the lands and tenements belonging to the said Chapel; and in the meantime to make reparation, and to pay the stipends to the chaplains according to their merit.

It is further mentioned that one John Burbrigg, who was convicted of disobedience to the Warden of the Chapel was committed to Newgate.<sup>3</sup>

In the year 1429, considerable alterations appear to have taken place, both as to the position and the dimensions of the site occupied by the Chapel, and the same strenuous efforts to provide the means for the improvements contemplated appear to have been as

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book I, fol. 54.

<sup>2</sup> "Chronicle of the Grey Friars of London," edited by J. G. Nichols, F.S.A., p. 11.

<sup>3</sup> Journal, i, fol. 24.

necessary as they were for completion of the work then steadily going on at the adjoining Hall. The original document, which records the particulars, is given in the Appendix. The following is an abstract only, but it recites the principal facts in connection with what had to be done in order to pull down both the old Chapel and College, and re-erect them :—

On the 10th April, 1429, 8 Henry VI, the King granted letters patent to the Mayor and Common Council of London, for which they paid 20 shillings into the hanaper, for authority to build a new Chapel and College. It was recited that a College or Chantry of five chaplains, of whom one is custos, had been in ancient times founded by the citizens of the said City, and that it had become too small for the requirements of the Citizens flocking to hear Divine worship, and that there was no piece of ground near the Guildhall which was suitable for building a new Chapel, except the soil on which a certain old messuage, occupied by Sir John Bernard, now custos, and the chaplains of the said College, on the southern side of the said Guyhalde, in the parish of St. Laurence, being the messuage which Adam Fraunceys and Peter Fanellor had conveyed to the custos and chaplains, by virtue of the licence of Edward III. "Accordingly the King of his especial grace, by the advice of his Council, for the increase of Divine worship, and in perpetual memory of his royal state, gives the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty licence to pull down the little old Chapel and the old messuage, and to build a new Chapel on the site of the old messuage, and a College in the names of the five chaplains, of whom Sir John Bernard is to be custos, and gives to the custos and chaplains perpetual succession, and, in lieu of the said old messuage, to give to the custos and chaplains another messuage, with its appurtenances, situated upon the common soil of the said City, on the northern side of the said Guyhalde, to have and to hold for celebrating Divine worship and doing duty for ever, for the King's state, while he lives, and his soul when he shall have migrated, and also for the state and souls of the founders and others, according to the ordination of the suppliants in that behalf. And also of his more abundant grace gives licence to hold the said lands and tenements in mortmain." The afore-mentioned works appear to have been carried out, although much time was required for their completion, for the Chapel was not sufficiently advanced for dedication to its uses prior to the 30th October, 1444, 23 Henry VI, some fifteen years later; but in the year 1436, John Wells,<sup>1</sup> Henry Frowick, and John Olney<sup>2</sup> were selected to survey what was in progress, and to look to "the new work of the Chapel of Guildhall, with all things to the same Chapel pertaining."<sup>3</sup> After this, the various donations and contributions may be noted as coming in from time to time; Sir William Estfeld, Knt., for example, being among the earliest of those included in the list. There is an entry to the effect that this great benefactor to the City, had, "out of his special favour and zeal which he hath to the honour of the City, did promise a moiety of the clear profits, beyond his expenses as overseer of aliens, to the use of the Chapel of the Guildhall for the year next following."<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sir John Wells came from Norwich, and prospering in the city of his adoption, became renowned for the substantial interest he manifested in its welfare. Fleet Bridge was repaired at his expense during the year of his mayoralty. On the coping his name was engraven, associated with the figures of angels, similar to a design of like character on the "Standard," in Cheapside, which he also erected, and to which he was the means of bringing from Tyburn fresh water for the advantage of the community.

<sup>2</sup> John Olney, Citizen and Mercer, chosen Sheriff in 1432, Lord Mayor, 1446.

<sup>3</sup> Journal, iii, fol. 39.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., fol. 40b.



Again, at a meeting of the Court of Common Council, held on Friday, 21st September, 1442, 21 Henry VI, it is recorded that the said John Wells, mentioned above in connection with the new building, and who was Mayor in the year 1431, had, by his Will, left provision for "the glascyng of thest wyndowe in the Yeldhall Chapell." His executors had come before the Mayor and Aldermen, upon the occasion referred to, and promised that they would, out of the goods of the said John, make in the Chapel of the said City a great window at the east end of the new Chapel, with an altar, also a presbytery, and two niches for statues, and convenient steps of marble before the altar. The bequest was carried out, and the window designed in such a way as should commemorate the man and the work which he had carried out in connection with the building that he had loved so well. His last resting place was within its precincts, and his tomb is the first among the various monuments in the Chapel to which Stow refers.<sup>1</sup> He speaks of "tombs of marble yet remaining, seven in number, but all defaced. The uppermost in the choir, on the south side thereof, above the revestry door, was the tomb of John Wells, grocer, mayor, 1451. The likeness of wells are graven in the tomb on the revestry door, and other places on that side the choir. Also in the glass window over this tomb, and in the east window, is the likeness of wells, with hands elevated out of the same wells, holding scrolls, wherein is written 'Mercy!'—the writing in the east window being broken, yet remaineth wells. I found his Arms also in the south glass window all which do show that the east end and south side the choir of this Chapel, and the revestry were by him both built and glazed."

Sir Henry Barton, citizen and skinner, and twice chosen to the office of Mayor, viz., in the years 1416 and 1428, was a great benefactor towards the re-building of the Chapel. Sir Henry was a descendant of a Suffolk family, coming to London from Mildenhall in that county, and prospering like many other of the City traders in the path of life which he had selected, he devoted a great portion of the wealth which he had acquired to the City in which he had been successful. To the re-building of Guildhall Chapel he left certain vestments and other articles, on the condition that the structure should be completed within nine years from the time of its commencement; but to be diverted to the interests of the Church of St. John on Walbrook should the conditions laid down in the provisions of his Will not have been complied with. Sir Henry's Will is of considerable length, and full of interesting matter. The following is but a brief abstract of its contents, embodying such portions as associate the testator with Guildhall and the adjacent Chapel. The bequest appears to have given some trouble to his survivors, and to those with whom it was connected, for the archives of the City record from time to time disputes between the officials of the Corporation and the rector and parishioners of St. Stephen on Walbrook, resulting at last in arbitration and a certain division of the property between the interested parties. This Will was proved on the 18th June, 1435, and, shortly after, we find an application from John Chichele,<sup>2</sup> the Chamberlain of the time, in the names of William Cliff and Thomas Knolles to the Mayor and Aldermen, asking for consent to their having in their custody the jewels bequeathed



<sup>1</sup> Stow's "Survey," p. 103.

<sup>2</sup> John Chichele married Margery, one of the daughters of Sir Thomas Knolles, Lord Mayor in 1399 and 1410-11.

by Henry Barton for the Chapel of Guildhall, then in the custody of the rector and parishioners of St. Stephen, Walbrook, when they had finished the Chapel, until they were satisfied of their expenses; and he engaged that they should complete the Chapel within the time appointed by Henry Barton in his Will. There then follows the order that the jewels shall be in their keeping until all the expenses were satisfied.<sup>1</sup> In the next year, viz., on the 30th October, 1444, 23 Henry VI, we read of the consecration of the building to the Blessed Mary Magdalen and all the Saints, by the Reverend Father Commissary of Robert (Gilbert), by the Grace of God Bishop of London, at the instance of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Chamberlain.<sup>2</sup> A few weeks after the Dedication it was ordered that the Wardens, Chaplains, and their successors, should from henceforth celebrate daily in the Chapel, Matins, Mass, and Vespers, "by note," and to do this they bound themselves by oath.<sup>3</sup>

As a result of the application above mentioned, a mandate was issued to the Rector and Wardens of St. Stephen, Walbrook, for the custody of the jewels bequeathed by Henry Barton for Guildhall Chapel.<sup>4</sup> This was replied to by the authorities to the effect that they had not the custody of the jewels. This resulted in a threat that they must be delivered up under peril; but the rector and his parishioners should have a discharge from all responsibility in connection with their delivery.<sup>5</sup>

Upon Friday, the 5th May, 1446,<sup>6</sup> the latter claimed restitution upon the grounds that the conditions in the Will had not been complied with. A day for consideration was given, and certain individuals appointed as a Committee to consider the matter,<sup>7</sup> the whole ending in a delay which extended to the year 1448, when on the 21st February in that year, Burgoyne and Wilton, the undersheriffs of the time, were appointed on the part of the rector and parishioners of St. Stephen, Walbrook, to arbitrate on the matter. This ended in a division, a portion being yielded to the Mayor for the use of the Chapel, and another portion to the rector and parishioners of St. Stephen's.

The translation is as follows:—

"Monday [blank] December 28 Henry VI, 1449.

"This day come here Master Richard Gordon, Doctor in Civil Law, and Baldwin Boteler, Citizen and Fishmonger of London, Arbitrators formerly elected by the Mayor Aldermen and Commonalty on behalf of the City, and Master John Stratton, Doctor in Civil Law, and William Gregory the Younger, on behalf of the Rector and Parishioners of St. Stephen Walbrook, London, arbitrators chosen by them for and in the matter touching the ornaments late by Henry Barton, Citizen, while he lived, and Skinner of London bequeathed to the Chapel of the Guildhall of the said City under certain conditions, by his will devised, etc., which arbitrators did finally pronounce and decree for certain considerations them reasonably moving, that a certain silver cross enamelled and gilt, with a 'hasta' of copper gilt, also the suit of vestments, to wit of cloth of gold of white colour, containing three copes, chasuble, and two tunics with the fittings of the same, and two cloths for the same suit of beaten gold, should be awarded and remain to the Mayor and Commonalty of the City to be used in the Chapel of St. Mary next the Guildhall for ever; they also decreed and adjudged that a cup of silver gilt and set with crystals in which to place the Body of our Lord, together with a wooden case covered with cloth of gold of blue fitted to the same cup; also a suit of vestments of cloth of gold of velvet, of a ruby colour, containing three copes, chasuble, and two tunics with their fittings, and two cloths to wit for the altar front, and 'contrafront,' and two small copes to be used for boys, should be awarded and remain to the Rector and Parishioners of the said Church of St. Stephen for ever, etc."<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Journal iv, fol. 16.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., fol. 56.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., fol. 184.

<sup>4</sup> Journal iv, fol. 48b.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., fol. 56b.

<sup>6</sup> Journal v, fol. 26b.

<sup>7</sup> Journal iv, fol. 53b.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., fol. 176.

On December 22nd following, the award was declared, and its execution ordered to be carried out, and the Chamberlain was instructed to deliver over to the wardens of St. Stephen, Walbrook, the cup and vestments, &c., according to the award.<sup>1</sup>

WILL OF HENRY BARTON, CITIZEN AND SKINNER, OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

*July 31, 1434 (12 Henry VI).*

In the first place he commends his soul to Almighty God, his Creator, to the Blessed Virgin Mary, his mother, and to all his holy Angels and Archangels; his body to be buried in the Chapel of the Charnell, in the southern part of the same Chapel, upon the Charnell of the Church of St. Paul's, London, near the wall, and contiguous to the wall of the same southern part of the Chapel aforesaid, as his tomb was there prepared, whenever God shall see fit to separate his soul from his body.

He then gives to the Guild or Fraternity of Corpus Christi, and to William Kirkeby, rector of the Church of St. John, Wallroke, a tenement in "Watlyngstrete," in the Parish of "Aldermarichirche."

Also a tenement in the Parish of All Saints, "Bredstrete," London, on the north side of "Watlyngstrete."

Also a tenement in "Weschepe," near the great Conduit, opposite the Church of St. Thomas Ascons, London.

Also his messuage called the "Redelyon, in Wodestrete," in the parish of St. Alphlege within "Crepilgate," with five shops, and an alley with the same messuage annexed.

He gives also to the master, warden, brethren, and sisters of the Guild or Fraternity aforesaid, also to the masters of the same, and also to the aforesaid rector of the Church of St. John aforesaid, and their successors, an annual rent of four marks out of all his lands and tenements called Romaynsrent, situate in the Parish of St. Mary "de Aldermarichyrch," London, on the southern side of the same Church, as it doth lie; and which he had by a charter made to him by William Pountfret the younger, William Leddred, skinner, and Thomas at Hoo, chaplain; to hold and perceive the aforesaid annual rent of four marks to the aforesaid master, warden, brethren and sisters, and to the aforesaid rector and their successors for ever, at the four terms of the year usual in the City of London; and if the aforesaid annual rent shall be behind in part or in whole, then it shall be lawful for the said master, warden, rector and their successors, masters, wardens, or rectors of the same Church of St. John, to distrain upon all the lands and tenements, with the appurtenances, called Romaynsrent, and the distresses so taken to take away and retain until the same masters, wardens and rectors of the Church of St. John shall be fully satisfied of the rent so in arrear.

To hold, upon the following conditions, viz., that the aforesaid master, warden and rector of the Church of St. John aforesaid, and their successors for ever, shall sufficiently keep, govern, maintain and sustain all the aforesaid lands and tenements and messuage with the alley aforesaid, and wholly observe all the Testator's ordinances before declared, viz., that the same master and wardens and rector, and their successors for ever, shall out of the profits, issues, and emoluments of the aforesaid lands and tenements, and messuage, and out of the aforesaid four marks annual rent, keep and cause to be kept his obit yearly, on All Saints Day, after vespers, with the warden of the Chapel of the Guildhall, London, and with the six chaplains of the same Chapel, together with the Testator's chaplain, and with the other men of the aforesaid Guild or Fraternity, shall come personally to the said Chapel of the Charnell and there in the same Chapel, shall cause to be said, devoutly and solemnly, by note, Placebo and Dirige, for the souls of the Kings of England, both past and to come, and for the Testator's soul, and the souls of his parents and benefactors, also of all the faithful departed.

And if by chance the Mayor and Aldermen of the said City for the time being, should be present at the exequies, then the said master, wardens, and rector, and their successors for the time being, shall honestly serve and cause to be served the same Mayor and Aldermen with bread, beer and wine, for providing which the aforesaid master, wardens, rector, and their successors shall ordain and have there yearly, at such exequies, two "solid" of bread called "maindbred," six gallons of wine, and one barrel of better beer containing thirty gallons, and whatever shall be left, after serving the said Mayor, Aldermen, and the others coming with them, shall be divided among the poor and needy there assembling.

<sup>1</sup> Journal v, fol. 27.

<sup>2</sup> Extracted from the Records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, *Luffnam*, fol. 144.

Also, that on the morrow of All Saints, viz., on All Souls Day, the said master, wardens and rector, and their successors for the time being, with the chaplains aforesaid, shall repair to the Chapel of the Charnell aforesaid, and there cause to be celebrated, at ten o'clock, for the souls of the aforesaid kings, also for the testator's soul, and the souls aforesaid, Mass of the Dead, by note.

And if the Mayor of London for the time being shall repair to that Mass to make offerings, then, immediately after the elevation of the Body of Christ, the said master, wardens and rector for the time being, shall, out of the profits and emoluments of the said lands and tenements, and out of that annual rent of four marks shall bestow upon the same mayor, for his presence in this behalf, and that the testament shall be well and faithfully executed, and that the obit shall thus be faithfully kept yearly, for ever, six shillings and eight pence.

And if the Recorder of the said City for the time being shall be there present, then he shall have twenty pence for his attendance.

And if both the Sheriffs attend, then each of them shall have twenty pence.

And if either of them be absent, he shall lose his share, and the other of them who shall come shall have twenty pence.

And if they both stay away this bequest is to be void.

And the Chamberlain of the City, if he come, is to have twenty pence.

And the master, warden and rector for the time being shall pay yearly, for this obit, to the Mayor's Sword-Bearer twelve pence for his attendance.

And to the Common Sergeant, for his attendance, twenty pence.

And to the Common Clerk of the City for his attendance, twenty pence.

And to David Floure, chaplain of the Charnell, for his attendance, twelve pence.

The said master, warden and rector, and their successors, for the time being, are to pay out of the said rents to the warden and chaplains of the Guildhall of London six shillings and eight pence, sterling, on condition that they, every year, be present on All Saints Day, after vespers, in the Chapel of the Charnell, with Testator's chaplain, which chaplain shall begin all the services specified in this will, by note, for the souls of the kings of England, and for Testator's soul, and those of his parents and benefactors, and all the faithful departed.

And on the morrow, viz., on All Souls Day, at ten o'clock, they shall repair to the Chapel of the Charnell, and celebrate the Mass of the Dead, and after Mass, shall go in procession round the same Chapel with Thurible, incensing, and singing the Antiphon *Libera me Domine*, and saying the *De profundis* before the door of the same Chapel, where remains are buried, praying for the souls of those whose bodies or remains are there buried, and so from year to year, for ever.

In case of their refusal, other chaplains to be appointed.

The Testator also ordained that the said master, warden, brethren and sisters of the Guild aforesaid, and also the rector of the Church of St. John aforesaid, and their successors for ever shall provide and maintain a chaplain, fit and honest, and of good fame and conversation, and competently skilled in divine services, who should continually celebrate in the Chapel of the Guildhall of the aforesaid City, for the healthful state of King Henry the Sixth and his heirs, and for the souls of their progenitors, and for the souls of the same king and his heirs when they shall have left this world, and for the Testator's soul, and those of his parents and benefactors, also for the souls of all the faithful departed, and for the tranquil peace of all Christianity; such chaplain to be present at all divine obsequies and canonical hours in the Guildhall Chapel on all days, as well week days as Sundays and Festivals, without absenting himself, unless through infirmity or other legitimate cause, under pain of deprivation of his office; and also each day, if he should be so disposed, he shall say the seven penitential psalms for the purposes aforesaid.

And also he is to say, once a week, for the purposes aforesaid, *Placabo*, *Dirige*, and the *Commendations*, according to the use of Sarum.

The Testator also ordained that a suit of vestments of cloth of gold of red velvet, viz., three copes, two tunicles, and one chasuble, with all their apparatus, and two altar cloths of the same, viz., "frount and counterfrount," with two small copes for boys; and another suit of vestments of cloth of gold, white colour, viz., three copes, two tunicles and one chasuble with all their apparatus, with two altar cloths; and one silver cross enamelled and gilt, weighing 3 lbs. 8½ oz. troy; with one cross staff of copper gilt, and one cup, silver gilt, in which to place the Body



of Christ, weighing 2 lb. 7 oz. troy, shall remain in the custody of his executors for a year after his decease, and then to be delivered to Master Thomas Southwell, rector of St. Stephen's Church, Walbroke, and the parishioners of the same to be kept safe in their custody, and to be used in divine service in the same Church on Greater Doubles for the term of nine years, on this condition, that if the Mayor and Commonalty of the City of London shall build anew a certain Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary, without the Hall of the Guildhall, London, as it is now discussed between the Mayor, Aldermen and Citizens aforesaid, in the place there ordained, and, also, if the priests of the Guildhall shall perform all the services required of them, that then the same suits of vestments, &c., shall be delivered into the said Chapel of the Guildhall to be used there, as long as they shall last.

But if the new Chapel be not built within nine years, or if failure be made in the performance of the aforesaid services, then the vestments, &c., shall remain to the rector, &c., of St. Stephen's, Walbroke, for ever.

His executors are, for one entire year after his death, to pay to the chaplain celebrating for him in the Guildhall Chapel, his entire stipend.

*Proved June 18, 1435.*

To this opulent merchant, the City of London was indebted for the first organised system of lighting its streets and thoroughfares. He issued an order than lanthorns should be hung out in the City between Hallowmas E'en and Candlemas, and, in addition, every constable was to have his own cresset or lanthorn, the expense of which was in light ijs. iiijd. Each cresset had two men, one to bear or hold it and another to carry a bag with lights to serve it. There were about 2,000 men so employed: every one, besides his wages, had his breakfast, and was furnished with a straw hat on which a number was conspicuously placed. Five hundred cressets were furnished by the City Companies, and the remaining 200 by the Chamber of London. Sir Henry is said to have been "buried in the charnell house by Pauls on the north side of the Churchyard, now pulled doune, and dwelling houses erected in the place thereof."<sup>1</sup> It is recorded that he had a fair tomb of alabaster, strongly coped with iron, which subsequently was removed at the destruction of the Chapel and its interesting monuments by the Duke of Somerset in 1549, the third year of Edward VI, the material being utilised in the construction of Somerset House in the Strand. His Arms, as shown in the illustration, were: *Erm*—on a saltire *sable* an annulet *or*, voided of the field.

At a meeting of the Court of Common Council held on Friday, 28th July, 1446, 25 Henry VI, the expense incurred in connection with the roofing of the Chapel, appears to have been under consideration, for upon that day it was ordained<sup>2</sup> "that the Mayor should direct when it pleased him that the wardens of the different mysteries should be exhorted to obtain benevolences from their mysteries, in order to contribute from their pious alms towards the roofing of the Chapel aforesaid." The request appears to have been circulated, but not to have been very well responded to, for it is not until the month of September in the following year that much was done in the matter. In a record of the proceedings of a meeting held on the 26th of September, 1447, 26 Henry VI, it is first of all stated that one Huly, an executor of the Will of William Bernewell, late citizen and fishmonger of London, in the name of himself and his co-executors did grant out of the pious alms of the deceased, towards the roofing of the Chapel of Guildhall, four foders (*fodras*) of good lead.<sup>3</sup> Upon the same occasion a request having been made to the "Hostellers" for some donation, the wardens attended to ask for the consideration of the subject to be allowed to stand over until the following day. The same answer appears to have been tendered from several other of the City Guilds, and among them the names are

Harl. MS., 1319, f. 12.

<sup>2</sup> Journal iv, fol. 187.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, fol. 192.

included of some of the most important of the crafts, for example, the Grocers, the Clothworkers or Drapers, and the Goldsmiths appear to have been among those who were undecided.<sup>1</sup> In less than a month after, however, the various Companies, or, at any rate, several of them, are recorded as having made certain grants from their funds, for the purpose required. On the Vigil of St. Michael, 26 Henry VI, 1447, the Wardens of the Surgeons' Company,<sup>2</sup> promised the sum of Twenty Shillings towards the roofing of the Chapel. This is followed by a grant of Ten Pounds by the Clothworkers,<sup>3</sup> on the 6th October in the same year; and upon the 12th of this month, John Chichele,<sup>4</sup> the Chamberlain, is indemnified against the responsibility which he had incurred in having borrowed seven fadders of lead for use upon the roof. On the 14th, the Grocers<sup>5</sup> authorised a grant of Ten Pounds, and on the 18th the Haberdashers<sup>6</sup> determined upon glazing one of the windows, the one selected being the next to one already completed by the Butchers. On the 20th, the Fishmongers<sup>7</sup> subscribed Ten Marks; on the 25th, Forty Shillings were voted by the Barbers;<sup>8</sup> and on the following day, the first in the order of precedence, viz., the Mercers,<sup>9</sup> bring to the Court Ten Pounds, in part payment of Sixteen Pounds, which they had decided to contribute; and so on. In this way the work progressed until we find that in the following reign, viz., on the 22nd October, 1478-9, 19 Edward IV, that two of the Aldermen, viz., William Taillour and William Hampton,<sup>10</sup> together with Richard Gardynier, the Mayor, were appointed to survey the repairs which it would seem were all but completed at the time, inasmuch as no further reference to their progress appears to have been recorded.

## Library.

In the list of presentations which appear in connection with the respective chantries there occurs a reference to one Thomas Mason, which is worthy of a distinct notice, inasmuch as it serves to illustrate a distinction not always very clearly expressed in our Histories of London, between the Chapel, the College, and the Library. The latter was in a house situated on the south side of the Chapel, and had been built by the executors of Richard Whittington and William Bury for the use of the students connected with the College. This house adjoined the Chapel on the south side. It contained three chambers with a room above, which was adapted to the requirements of a Library. In the year 1466, Mason had been presented to the perpetual chantry. This had been founded for the soul of one Roger de Depeham, and was soon after entrusted with the custody of the Library belonging to the College, to the said Mason; and it would seem that he was not over-conscientious as to the responsibility of the trust, for there is preserved among the collections at Magdalen College, Oxford, a folio volume containing tracts and essays of various kinds, in which, curiously enough, on the opening page we find these words:—"*Liber Magistri Ricardi Lagharne emptus per ejusdem a domino Thoma Masoun quondam custode Libraire de Gille Halle, Londoniis pro xiijs et iiijd Anno domini cccc' sexagesima octavo.*" This memorandum implies that the Librarian of the College, and at the same time one of the chaplains connected with the Chapel, had abstracted one of the books from the Library, and parted with it for the sum of 13s. 4d. The erection

<sup>1</sup> Journal iv, fol. 192.<sup>2</sup> Ibid., fol. 196.<sup>3</sup> Ibid., fol. 198.<sup>4</sup> Journal viii, fol. 217b.<sup>5</sup> Journal iv, fol. 193b.<sup>6</sup> Ibid., fol. 196b.<sup>7</sup> Ibid., fol. 198b.<sup>8</sup> Journal iv, fol. 194b.<sup>9</sup> Ibid., fol. 197b.<sup>10</sup> Ibid., fol. 199.

of the house and Library, together with the privilege of making such regulations for management as were necessary, was conceded by the Corporation to the executors of Whittington and Bury. It is thus referred to in the records :—<sup>1</sup>

Item eodem Die [sc. vicesimo septimo Die Septembris anno regni Regis Henrici Sexti post conquestum quarto] concessum fuit per dictos Maiorem Aldermannos et Communitatem quod nova Domus sive Libraria quam dicti executores [sc. testamenti Ricardi Whityngton] et executores Willelmi Bury fecerunt iuxta Guybaldam et Custodia eiusdem simul cum Cameris subtus eandem edificatis sint in disposicione et ordinatione eorundem executorum Ita scilicet quod totum et quicquid iidem executores inde vel de libris aut aliis rebus ponendis seu faciendis in eisdem duxerint ordinandum fiat et exequatur adeo plene et perfecte sicut per dictos Maiorem Aldermannos et Communitatem auctoritate sua et auctoritate libertatum dicte Civitatis essent ordinata sine reclamacione vel contradiccione aliquali, etc.

Item the same day [to wit the 27th September, a<sup>o</sup> 4 Henry VI, 1425], it was granted by the said Mayor and Aldermen and Commonalty that the new House or Library which the said executors [to wit of the testament of Richard Whityngton] and the executors of William Bury made near the Guildhall, and the custody of the same together with the Chambers built underneath the same should be in the disposition and management of the said executors. In such manner that all and everything which the same executors should think fit to ordain touching the placing the books or doing other matters—shall be done and executed as fully and perfectly as if they had been ordained by the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, by their own authority or by authority of the franchises of the said City without any kind of refusal or contradiction, &c.

In addition to the above, there is a further reference to the Library and its contents, preserved in the Will of John Carpenter, who, in the course of his life-time, had been closely associated with its foundation. In his Will, proved in the Consistory Court of London, 12 May, 1442, and a copy of which is enrolled in the Hustings Court, there is the following mention of the Library, "If any good or rare books shall be found amongst the residue of my goods, which by the discretion of Master William Lichfield and Reginald Pecok may seem necessary to the '*common library at Guildhall*' for the profit of the students there, and those discoursing to the common people, then I will and bequeath that those books be placed by my executors and *chained* in that Library and in such form that the visitors and students thereof may be the sooner admonished to pray for my soul."<sup>2</sup> Two years later there occurs another interesting entry in the records in connection with the Keeper or Librarian of the time. John Clipstone, one of the Chaplains, had been appointed, and had found that the duties were arduous, and moreover, from his Petition to the Mayor and Aldermen which follows, had some misgivings as to whether he should be permitted to retain his post. He accordingly petitions the Court to the following effect :—

To the full Honourable Lord and Souveraignes Maire and Aldermen in the Cittee of Lūdon, beseechith lowely your Prest and Bedeman Maister John Clipstone, Keper of your Librery at Gyldehalle, for as moche as it hath likode you for to take to hym the kepinge and charge of the said Librery. Please it to you, for to consider the great attendaunce and charge the which he hath with it, and in waytenge thereupon to graunte that he may be made so sure of his *lyftoide, housynge*, and easement of the gardyn which he hath for that occupacion attē this day, that he hath hereafter putte away therefore ne noo part thereof, nor noon other charge put upon hym so that he may have more cause and occasion to pray besyly for the *weole of you* and of the sayd *Cittie*, &c., &c.<sup>3</sup>

The reply to this Petition is likewise entered, and it records that the request "having been duly weighed, and the great merits and industry of the petitioner considered

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book K, fol. 39.

<sup>2</sup> Vide Brewer's "Life of John Carpenter."

<sup>3</sup> Letter Book K, fol. 219.

by the said Maire and Aldermen," his prayer was granted, with occupation for his whole life.

It is in every way probable that the labour of John Clipstone in connection with the College and its Library was by no means overrated. As the collection of books increased, which was doubtless the case, from various donations coming in from time to time, the duties imposed upon his successor became probably heavier than his own. At any rate, it is clear that from a small beginning the collection had, during the period which elapsed between its formation and removal, considerably increased, and probably included many manuscripts and works which, at the present time, would be of untold value. The next event worthy of special note in connection with it, is that in the reign of Edward VI the books were sent for by Edward, Duke of Somerset, Lord Protector, with a promise that he would shortly restore them. No less than three cartloads were forwarded to the Duke, but whether he discovered their value and retained them, or whatever was the cause, it is sufficient to know that the first collection of books formed in the Library of the old College, for some unknown reason, was *never returned*. Such robbery and spoliation were but portions of the reckless plundering which followed the dissolution of the Monasteries, a spirit of destruction and pillage prevailed in every direction, not only were the magnificent buildings dismantled, and in many cases destroyed, but valuable books and manuscripts, the accumulation of centuries, were stolen and parted with as waste paper. Fuller, in his history of the time, is among the historians who indignantly bewail the loss, and quotes the following curious extract from the writings of Bale, the Centurist. "Covetousnesse," says the author, "was at that time so busy about private commodity that publick wealth was not anywhere regarded. A number of them which purchased those superstitious mansions reserved of those library books, some to serve their jokes, some to scour their candlesticks, and some to rub their boots; and some they sold to the grocers and sope sellers, and some they sent over sea to the bookbinders, not in small numbers but at times whole ships full. Yea, the Universities of this Realme are not all clear in this detestable fact. But cursed is that belly which seeketh to be fed with so ungodly gains and so deeply shameth his naturall Cuntrey. I know a Merchant man—which shall at this time be nameless—that bought the contents of two noble libraries for fourty shillings price; a shame it is to be spoken. This stuffe hath he occupied instead of gray paper, by the space of more than these ten years, and yet he hath store enough for as many years to come. A prodigious example is this, and to be abhorred of all men, which love their nations as they should doe. Yea, what may bring our Realme to more shame and rebuke than to have it noised abroad that we are despisers of learning? I judge this to be true, and utter it with heavinesse, that neither the Britains, under the Romans and Saxons; nor yet the English people under the Danes and Normans, had ever such damage of their learned monuments as we have seen in our time. Our posterity may well curse this wicked fact of our Age, this unreasonable spoil of England's most noble antiquities."<sup>1</sup> It does not appear that any serious attempt was made to form a new collection of books at Guildhall, for very shortly after—indeed, in the following year—it seems that a determination was arrived at no longer to use the building as a Library, but to divert it from the original intentions of Whittington and others, and to devote it to a commercial purpose; indeed, to convert it, as was subsequently done, into a "*common market house for the sale of clothes and none otherwise*." There is an entry which

<sup>1</sup> Fuller, p. 335, from the "Declaration against Leland's Journal."



describes its transfer to Sir John Aylif, Knight, at this time Keeper of Blackwell Hall, the then recognised Store house and mart for the sale of various descriptions of woollen cloths, &c.<sup>1</sup> It reads as follows:—

## HYLL MAIOR.

JOVIS vj<sup>o</sup> MARCII ANNO REGNI REGIS EDWARDI vj<sup>o</sup> iij<sup>o</sup>.

Item for certeyn consideracions movyng the Co<sup>te</sup> yt is agreed by the same that S<sup>r</sup> John Aylif Knight nowe keeper of blackwellhall shall have the hole lyberarye of the Guydhall Colledge as well above as beneath from the feste of the Annuncyacion of Ladije nowe nexte comyng for the terme of his naturall lyf, yeldyng therefore yerely during the same terme to the Mayer and Commynaltye and Cytezens of this Cytie to thuse of the poore vil. So alwayes that he vse and occupye the same as a cōen market howse for the sale of clothes and none otherwyse.

Mr. Aylif  
Camerarius  
for the  
lyberarye of  
the guydhall  
Colledge to  
the vse of  
the pore.

Some few years later, viz., in the year 1564, in the reign of Elizabeth, the Bishop of London appears to have been sensible of the advantages to be derived from the presence of a Library in the City, and to have addressed a letter to the Corporation on the subject. From the following it will be seen that, in response to the advice of his Lordship, a committee was appointed to consider the matter, and that its members visited the authorities at Christ's Hospital with a view to ascertain whether there was any suitable accommodation to be had there. They appear to have found a "mete and apte house," in which a Library could be formed, and to have informed the Bishop of the fact, and arrangements were subsequently made for carrying the various recommendations into effect, and in a later entry it will be observed that estimates were to be obtained for meeting the requisite expenditure.

Martio quinto Decembris Anno regni regine E[lizabethe] Septimo [A.D. 1564].

Item after the readyng of the lre of the Lorde byshopp of London for y<sup>e</sup> erectyng of a cōen libary w<sup>in</sup> this cytye by the cytyseins of the same yt was agreyd that the Co<sup>te</sup> shall be advysed for thansweryng therof vntyll the nexte Co<sup>te</sup> daye.<sup>2</sup>

Lune xj<sup>mo</sup> Decembris Anno regni regine E[lizabethe] vij<sup>mo</sup> etc.<sup>3</sup>

At this co<sup>te</sup> M<sup>r</sup>. Aldrān Chamblein and the Chamblein of this cytye reportyd that they accordyng to their conyssyon gyven vnto them the last Co<sup>te</sup> daye have byn at christies churche or hospytall and have there founde a very mete and apte house to make a lyberary of wherevpon M<sup>r</sup>. Laur[ence] Wythers one of the governors of the seid hospitall beinge here presente was appoynted callynge vnto him ij or iij moe of the governors of y<sup>e</sup> said house to repaire w<sup>t</sup> convenient spede to the lorde byshopp of London and to informe his lordshipp in the Name of this house of y<sup>e</sup> saide place and to Attende vpon him thither and to shewe yt vnto his Lordshipp and to make reporte vnto this Co<sup>te</sup> how his Lordshipp dothe lyke yt. And the said M<sup>r</sup>. Wythers was also appoynted to talke w<sup>t</sup> the said L. byshopp for & concernyng the cōtentes of his seyde lre wrytten vnto my lorde mayre touching the cōen reader in Christechurche w<sup>th</sup> lre was forthew<sup>th</sup> delyveryd to the said M<sup>r</sup>. Wyther. And yt was further orderyd that the churchwardens and twee or three other honest parishioners of Christs Church shalbe warnyd to be here tomorowe to informe the Co<sup>te</sup> whither the (sic) clayme eny propertye or interest in the bodye of theire saide churche or not. So that this Co<sup>te</sup> beinge ascertyntyd therof maye procede for the further orderyng & vsyng of y<sup>e</sup> same as to them shall seeme best.

A lyberary.

The reader  
at Christe  
churche.

London  
and the  
parishioners  
of Christe-  
churche.

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book R, fol. 58.

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 15, fol. 400.

<sup>3</sup> Idem., fol. 402.

Jovis xiii<sup>mo</sup> Decembris Anno vij<sup>mo</sup> Domine Eliz[abethe] Regine etc.

Item vpon the reporte of Mr Laurence Wythers Salter made vnto y<sup>e</sup> Co'te here this daye of the aptnesse of the place w<sup>in</sup> Christes hospitall to make a lyberary of Yt was ordered that he and the Chamblein takyng w<sup>it</sup> theym the Carpenters & other wo'kemen of the Chamber shall expend and consyder as nere as they can esteame what the charges wyll extende vnto for the fynysheinge of the same.<sup>1</sup>

The Chapel.

In the record of the tombs and monuments which Stow tells us were in his time still to be seen within the Chapel, we find mention of the tomb of Thomas Knesworth, Fishmonger, and Mayor, 1505, and whose death occurred in the year 1515. The tomb had become defaced and been subsequently renewed by the Fishmongers' Company, to whom he had left large benefactions. Sir Thomas Knesworth, or Kneysworth, belonged to a Cambridgeshire family, and, settling in London, became Alderman of Bishopsgate Ward. In the course of his mayoralty he was among the officials who suffered from the tyranny then exercised by the authorities in the Court of Star Chamber. In his interesting description of this tribunal, Mr. John Bruce, F.S.A.,<sup>2</sup> has well observed that it was at the time hardly possible for anyone to fill a civil office without giving occasion of advantage to the ever-watchful informers. Eschaetors, Customers, Comptrollers and Sheriffs are among those who, having derived their appointments from the King, were next subjected to their public conduct being scrutinised with the most vigilant severity. "During the reign of Henry VII," said Mr. Bruce, "the Court became the instrument by which the politic rapacity of the sovereign and the subtilty of his favourite, 'promoters of suits,' accomplished their nefarious purposes." The rulers of the City were among those who suffered most. Sir W. Capell, Alderman, was fined in 1495 a sum of £2,473, but compounded for £1,615. 6s. 8d.; in 1505, he and his son, Giles Capell, were fined £1,000; they paid £100 down and gave recognizance for £900. In 1507 Sir William was again fined, but refused to pay; he was thereupon sent to the Tower, but was released upon the death of Henry the Seventh. Sir Thomas Kneysworth, before mentioned, and Richard Shore and Roger Grove, his two Sheriffs, were brought before the Council; Kneysworth and Shore were fined £500 each and Grove £133. 6s. 8d., besides imprisonment in the Marshalsea. Kebell, another Alderman, was fined 1,000 marks; Sir Laurence Aylmer, Lord Mayor in 1507-8, refusing to compound, was kept in prison till the death of Henry VII.

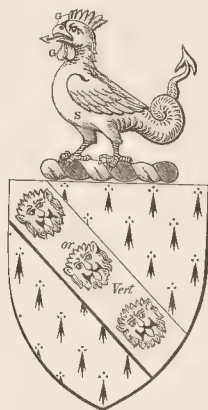
"Two other tombs there are," writes Stow, "the one of a draper, the other of a haberdasher, their names not known. Richard Stomine is written in the window by the haberdasher. Under flat stones do lie divers custos of the Chapel, chaplains and officers to the chamber." Amongst others, he mentions that of John Clipstone, Priest, and some time custos of the Library at Guildhall, 1457. Another of Edmond Alison, Priest, likewise a custos of the Library in 1510, &c. He does not, however, refer specially to an epitaph which is said by Weever<sup>3</sup> to have been within the Chapel, viz., one that records the burial of a "custos" in the year 1488, and one that must be placed between the death of John Clipstone and that of Edmond Alison. The memorial to this official is thus preserved. "En Thomas Frances pius hic qui lustra per Octo Custos extiterat pacet et semper requiescat, Ob. Mar. 4. 1488." He further writes that "Sir John Langley, Goldsmith, Mayor 1576, lieth buried in the vault, under the tomb of John Wells before-named." This Sir John was a distinguished citizen, descended from a country family. He appears to have

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 15, fol. 404.

<sup>2</sup> "Archæologia," vol. xxv, p. 370, also, "Remembrancia," printed by the Corporation, p. 42.

<sup>3</sup> Weever's "Funeral Monuments," p. 399.

come to London, and as a goldsmith achieved success. He was elected Alderman of Billingsgate on the 8th October, 1566; chosen Sheriff for part of the year 1567 upon the decease of Richard Lambert; he removed to Queenhithe, 12th December, 1570, to Langbourne, 19th February, 1572, and became Lord Mayor in the year 1576. His pedigree is set out as follows in the *Heralds' Visitation of London*,<sup>1</sup> made in the year 1568, and preserved in the Library of the College of Arms.



John Lingley of Yorks., 1890.

Robert Langley, 1st son, Emph. 1st of William More  
of Alt. 1st of L.A. of Yorksh.

Alm. Lit. 21.

William L. Lingle, 1st  
803, ob. 8 p.

Thom, J. A. Lat. 50° 30' N.  
2, 150 d.

1. Jones, etc. etc. J. A. J. A. Langley of London  
Baker, etc. etc. Baker, etc. etc.

Ursula dau. of William Tinsworth of  
London, gold smith, widow to George  
Bryce, and of London, leatherseller.



Wilhelm, Inge, &amp; ...

Theresa Langer

Francis Lanzetta

The Arms given for Sir John's first wife, Joan Potkyn, are,—*Argent* on a fess between three talbots *gules*, as many lozenges of the field. They are assigned in the Alphabet of Arms appended to the Harl. MS., 1463, to the "Potkins of Kent."

There was, in addition, a memorial of William Man, Esq., Swordbearer, 1659, who died in the year 1705, aged 77, having held his appointment for 46 years. This official, who had attained to the advanced age mentioned, had been married no less than five times, a circumstance referred to in the following description of his tomb, which is given in Hatton's "New View of London, 1708," and from the way the account is given it would seem that the author enjoyed some acquaintance with the family. He writes: "On a grey marble grave-stone, near the middle of the Body of the

<sup>1</sup> Vide "Visitation of London, taken by Robert Cooke, Clarencieux King of Armes, An. Dom., 1568." Harl. MS., No. 1463.

Chapel, this inscription: 'Here lyes interred the Body of William Man, Esq., who was admitted Swordbearer to the City of London, the 20th of October, 1659, and remained so to the day of his Death, which happened the 30th day of April, 1705, in the 76th year of his Age.' This I am told by his relation, should be the 77th year of his age, and that the stone is to be altered accordingly. And here are his Arms which are on a Fess between 3 Goats Passant, as many Roundles. But either this or Guillim is false; for he has these Arms for Mr. Man's, *i.e.*, *Azure* on a Fess counter-embattl'd between 3 Goats Passant, as many Ogresses. This Coat is impaled with each of 3 of his 5 Wives, *viz.*, a Fess between a demy-Lion in Chief, and 3 Estoils in Base. 4. A Dexter hand holding a Sword, quartered with 3 Tre-foils, the Stems conjoined in Trine. 6. On a Chevron between 3 Lions' heads erased, as many Cross Croslets and for the Crest a Goat's head issuing out of a Crown Mural."

Subsequently to Stow's record may be mentioned William Avery, Esq., Town Clerk, deceased in the year 1666, whose services appear to have been so highly appreciated that a special resolution was passed that some fitting memorial should be placed above his grave. In the report of a meeting held on the 5 March, 1671, the following entry is recorded:—

"This Court being very sensible of the true and ffaithfull service p'formed for many yeares to this Cittye by William Avery, Esq., deced Late Towne Clarke Doo thinke fitte and order that a Tombstone with an Inscriptoon bee laid over his Grave in the Guildhall Chappell at the Cittye Charge."

The inscription is as follows:—

"In hoc Tumulo Sepultum jacet Corpus Gulielmi Avery Armigeri, dum vixit Celeberrime huic Civitate à Commentariis Legum Rationumque publicarum Scriba et Computista Ingenio et acumine pollens, in Negotiis expediendis promptus, in quo morum suavitas et Candor pectoris emicnere fidelitate, pariter ac diligentia in ist hoc munere exequenda Notabilis. Anno Impl. 52. Ob. Feb. 9, 1671."

In addition there is recorded another, *viz.*, that of William Fluellen, Alderman in 1605. The inscription on his tomb being: "Here lyeth interred the body of William Fluellen, Esq., late Alderman of this City, who departed this life the 11th September, 1675, being the 66 year of his age." His Arms, according to Hatton, were "A Lion Rampant crown'd with a ducal coronet." He probably was in some way connected with the undermentioned individual of the same name, who, in the year 1626 was appointed to the reversion of the Keepership of Guildhall in the event of its becoming vacant, the position at the time being held by his kinsman, one Robert Swaine. Alderman Fluellen dying at the age of 66 in the year 1675, would, presuming him to be the individual referred to, have been but a youth at the time. The similarity between the names is however curious.

"Item this daie vpon the humble peticoñ of Robert Swaine, Keeper of the Guildhall for and in the behalfe of William ffeuwellen his kinsman and servant this Court doth freely and lovingly give and graunt vnto the said Willm ffeuwellen the Renercōn and next avoidance of the place of Keepership of the Guildhall of this Cittie and the ffarme or Office of Sealing of Weights and Measures, and of the place of Yeoman of y<sup>e</sup> Chamber by what waies or meanes the same shall first and next happen to fall and become voide. To haue, hold, exercise, and enioye the same place w<sup>th</sup> all ffees proffitus and Commodities therevnto by any waies or meanes whatsoever due and of right belonging or appertaininge together w<sup>th</sup> the house wherein the saide Rob'te Swayne inhabiteth in as ample manner to all interests and purposes as the saide Roberte Swayne or any other hath or had the same so longe as hee the said William ffeuwellen shall well and honestly vse and behaive himselfe in the xecucōn thereof and pay into the Chamber of London for the same ffarme the accustomed yerly rent of x<sup>li</sup> and the yerly rent accustomed for the said house

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 11, fol. 100b.







saneing to all and enery other pson and psons his & their former right and interest in and to the said places by the vertue of any former graunte made thereof by this Courte and soe alwaies and vpon condicōn that hee the said William fiewellen at such tyme as hee shall come to clayme and enioye theben efft of this his graunte bee thought and adiudged by this Court fitt apt and able for the dew executōn thereof and not otherwise."

In the illustration which is given of the interior of the Chapel there may be observed upon the south wall, and in close proximity to the east window, but high above the pavement, a neatly-formed monument. This is doubtless the one referred to by Mr. Nichols in his "Description of the Guildhall." Writing in 1819, he speaks of this Tablet as being in the situation described, and remarks that the inscription is so much defaced as to be illegible from the distance at which it can be seen. No mention of this the last monument left in the old Chapel occurs in any of our London histories, a circumstance probably due to the fact of the inscription being worn and illegible. It was, however, clearly to be made out in the year 1726-7, inasmuch as a copy had been made at the time by a collector of epitaphs and inscriptions. These are included in a volume relating to such matters now preserved among the Rawlinson MSS.<sup>1</sup> at the Bodleian Library, Oxford. As the Tablet is the one figured in the engraving, it is desirable to place the inscription on record, the monument itself, with some few others belonging to the Chapel, exists, inasmuch as after the building was diverted from its sacred uses, some of these memorials of the dead were conveyed to the Church of St. Laurence in the Jewry, where they still remain. The inscription in the MS. referred to is as follows :—

## GUILD-HALL CHAPPELL.

26 Jan., 1726. On a white marble tablet on the South wall, near the altar is this inscription.

H. S. E.

GUILELMVS STEWART Eques

JOHANNIS STEWART de Shambelly

generosa apud Scotos Familia

in Comitatu Gallovidiæ filius natu quartus

Qui<sup>2</sup>

Scirpis dignitatem opum splendore

MERCATOR honestavit

Nosocomium S<sup>ti</sup> BARTOLOMÆI Summa Fide

PRÆFECTVS gubernavit.

LONDINI denum PRÆTOR.

Ea erat animi Firmitate et sapientia

Ut temporibus etiam difficilimis

Integra maneret Civitati Pax et Libertas sua

Tranquillitatis Publicæ Studiissimus

Ecclesiæ ANGLICANÆ Vindex Strenus et Pius

Obiit

Anno post exactum Magistrum proximo

29 Aprilis 1723. ætat. 79.

Cognati tam privatæ ergo ipsos Beneficentiæ

Quam virtutum eminentiorum memores

Hoc Illi Marmor Sacrum esse voluerunt.

The above-mentioned Sir William Stewart was a member of the Goldsmiths' Company, Alderman of Cripplegate, President of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and Lord

Rawlinson MS., B. 420, B. fol. 52.

Mayor in the year 1721. It would appear from the above memorial that he was held in high estimation by his fellow citizens, though it is curious that living to the advanced age of 79 he only attained the dignified position of chief magistrate in the year 1721, and that but two years prior to his decease. It is further mentioned that the Shield of Arms upon the stone correspond with those upon the memorial to his wife. The only other monument connected with the Chapel that is preserved in the Church of St. Laurence is that of Catharine Lightfoot, before mentioned, as having died in the year 1677.<sup>1</sup> It is placed upon the wall adjoining the memorial to Sir William Stewart, Lord Mayor in 1721. It bears the following inscription :—

Piæ Memoriz  
CATHARINA LIGHTFOOT  
Filiz Roberti ABBOT Gen  
Pulcherrime Conjugis  
WILLM. LIGHTFOOT  
unius & quatuor Clericis in Curia  
Dñi Majoris hujus Civitatis  
Femina Exemplaris Pietatis et Prudentiæ  
Vixit in Sanctissimo Matrimonio XI Annos  
et obiit in flore ÆTATIS  
Casibus Puerperii.  
xvii die Februarii, Anno Dñi 1677  
ET HEC juxta sita est  
Expectans felicem resurrectionis per Jesum Christum  
Amen.

The Arms of this branch of the Lightfoot family are displayed above the inscription ; they are Bars of six, *or* and *gules*, on a bend *sable* three escallops of the first.

The absence of the husband's monument is probably due to the circumstance that his was but a flat stone bearing an inscription, and it does not appear that any of the simple gravestones, which were upon the floor of the Chapel, were ever transferred to St. Laurence's Church. There is, however, a record of the inscription preserved in Hatton's "View of London." The author of this interesting work, in his description of the Chapel, thus speaks of this particular tomb :—"On a grey marble gravestone near the entrance into the chancel is this inscription : Hic jacet Corpus Gu. Lightfoot, Gen quondam unius quatuor Attorn, in Curia Dom, Majoris infra hanc Civitatem nuper Registrarii Hospitii Tho. Sutton, Ar. qui ob. 2 die Jan., 1699. Ætat suæ 67. Resurgam."

Hatton's description of the interior of the Chapel is of interest, as giving an account of its actual condition at the time he wrote. Referring to the partial destruction by the Great Fire of 1666, he says that the walls escaped, and then proceeds to describe the building as being "a pleasant large Chapel of the Gothic order, except the upper windows, &c., which were burnt down by the aforesaid Fire and rebuilt in the Tuscan style, and the side Iles are separated from the nave of the Chapel as in Cathedrals. As to its ornaments, there are 3 niches in the front towards Guild Hall Yard, with Columns and Entablature of the Composite order, supported by a Demy Lion, Griffin, Fernes, &c., and the niches are filled with the figures of Edward VI, Queen Elizabeth and King James I. The Roof is square, and on the inside a Cornice of Fretwork. The

<sup>1</sup> Maitland says 1673.



Windows neat and spacious ; there is at the west end a Gallery, and the Walls are hung with fine tapestry, above which is a covering of wainscot, with enrichments of Cherubims, &c., over the seats of the Aldermen, which are also of oak. And at the west end there is a particular seat for the Lord Mayor, adorned with cartouches, also a Cornice, whereon is the Queens Arms and supporters, and a little more forward below are the supporters of the City Arms, being 2 dragons with wings displayed. Here are also a handsome wainscot Pulpit and Desk. The Altar piece has the Commandments in gilt frames, and done in gold and black between the Lords Prayer and Creed, done in gold letters on blue, and over the Commandments is a compass pediment with a glory and enrichments of Cherubims, &c., which Altar piece is enclosed with rails and banisters."

The above-named Monuments were placed in St. Laurence's Church at the time the Chapel was pulled down in the year 1822. Its demolition had not met with general approval, indeed, many years previous, dissatisfaction had been expressed by certain members of the Corporation at the neglected state into which it had fallen, and suggestions made for a restoration. William Pickett, a member of the Goldsmiths' Company, Lord Mayor in 1789, and the immediate predecessor in the civic chair of worthy John Boydell, had taken an active part in an endeavour not only to preserve the ancient front of the Guildhall, but likewise to cherish and utilise the adjacent Chapel. In a pamphlet which he published at this period there is an interesting reference to both structures. He writes, "No man has a greater prejudice in favour of the ancient buildings, rights, customs and honourable appendages to the City of London than myself, which disposition has frequently been testified, particularly in the strong opposition I gave to the taking down the venerable front of Guildhall, in my exertions to have the ancient Chapel adjoining restored to its pristine state and use, to revive the usage of the Easter processions, and the custom of meeting the Judges at St. Paul's on the commencement of the Terms. And now the City has purchased the site of those extensive premises, Blackwell Hall, I hope to see a large and valuable Library, and every other of the appurtenances and distinctions brought about which formerly marked the City of London with so much respectability and consequence."<sup>1</sup> William Pickett was an active member of the Corporation. He followed the business of a silversmith, having an establishment in Ludgate Hill and one in Bond Street. In his domestic life he was much afflicted, for his eldest daughter was burnt to death in his presence at the early age of 23, and his only son suffered death at the hands of French pirates on board his ship "Triton," in the year 1796. In October of the same year he lost his wife, who lies in Abney Park Cemetery, he surviving her but a few months. The words, however, quoted from his interesting little pamphlet are indeed prophetic, for though a century has nearly passed since they were written, we can now point—and that on the site to which he refers—to one of the most useful and popular Libraries in Europe, likewise to the formation of a Fine Arts Gallery for the preservation and exhibition of Paintings, Sculpture and other works of art, now arranged in a building occupying the site of Blackwell Hall. By an Act of Parliament, which received the Royal Assent on the 28th June, 1815,<sup>2</sup> power was given to pull down the Chapel and to remove the two remaining monumental slabs to the adjacent Church, a sum of Twenty Pounds being voted to the Churchwardens to meet the requisite expense. They were

<sup>1</sup> "Public Improvements," by William Pickett, Esq., 1789.

<sup>2</sup> Act of Parliament, cap. 93, 55 George III.

accordingly placed in the position they now occupy. The pavement and walls of the Chapel were not to be disturbed. By the same Act leave was given to demolish Blackwell Hall, and to erect the Law Courts upon the site. Although this Act was passed in the year 1815, nothing seems to have been done until seven years later, the Chapel during the interval having been utilised as a general store house, for Mr. Nichols, writing in 1819,<sup>1</sup> speaks of it as not being appropriated to any particular purpose. He describes it as containing "heaps of timber and materials which are used in Guildhall upon particular occasions, also books, maps, plans, manuscripts, with several pictures; models of St. Luke's Hospital, the Old Court of Common Council, and other buildings. These things form a confused mass under and on the top of the gallery at the west end, and from the time they have lain in their present condition have collected so much dust and rubbish as almost to defy inspection."

The memorial however which possesses the greatest interest in connection with the building is a massive stone coffin, now preserved in the Museum at Guildhall, with its lid remaining, and whereon is sculptured a cross between two trumpets, and round its margin the following inscription:—"Godefrey Le Trovmpovr: Gist: Ci: Dev: Del: Ealme: Eit: Merci."—Godfrey the Trompovr lies here, God on his soul have mercy. The said Godfrey, says Mr. Riley, doubtless followed the trade of a trumpet maker, and lived in Trump Street, formerly Trump Alley, near to the Guildhall; the principal customers being probably the City *waits*, or watchmen, each of whom was provided with a trumpet, also known as a *wait*, for sounding the hours of the watch and giving the alarm.<sup>2</sup>

This interesting relic was discovered near to one of the angles of the building at the time when the Chapel was pulled down; and shortly after, the following excellent description of the discovery, accompanied by an engraving of the coffin, was published in the "Gentleman's Magazine":—<sup>3</sup>

July 1st, 1822.

MR. URBAN,

In consequence of the demolition of Guildhall Chapel, and the preparations of the ground to receive some new buildings which are about to be erected, an interesting discovery has taken place. On digging near the north-west angle of the Chapel, just without the walls, the men came to a sepulchre, between 12 and 18 inches below the surface of the floor, large enough to contain a coffin which was found entire, covered with its lid, but containing no relics of bones. The coffin is plain, smooth on the outside, but rough on the inside, and of the usual form to accommodate the head and shoulders of a deceased person. In the bottom near the foot, is a hole for the purpose, it is supposed, of carrying away moisture. The lid is ornamented with a cross between two tapers, which are engraved on the stone, the cross being raised, and its shaft resting on three steps. In a cavetto of the sloping edge is this inscription:

☒ Godefrey : Letrovmpovr : Gist : Ci : Den : Del : Ealme : Eit : Merci.

(Godfrey the Trompovr lies here. God have mercy on his soul.)

The dimensions are as follows: extreme length, 6 feet 1½ inch; width at the head, 2 feet 3½ inches; width at the foot, 1 foot 3¼ inches.

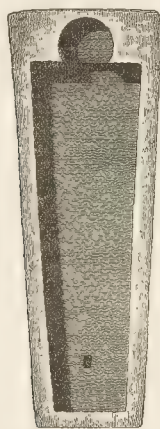
The material of the lid and coffin is the same, and appears to be a kind of Purbeck stone, the former has suffered no important injury, and is of the usual grey colour; but the latter is of a reddish colour, partially

<sup>1</sup> "Brief Account of the Guildhall," by J. B. Nichols, 1819, p. 62.

<sup>2</sup> Riley's "Memorials."—Introduction, p. 21.

<sup>3</sup> Vol. xii, part ii, p. 3.

mutilated, which may be attributed to its long concealment under ground. Wherever this ancient and curious monument was originally fixed, I have no doubt that the ledger stone was exposed to view on the floor of the building. It is impossible to conjecture at what period its concealment took place, but there is reason to believe that if the sepulchre was not coeval with the coffin, it was of considerable antiquity; each of its sides were decorated with a red cross inscribed within a circle of  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches diameter.<sup>1</sup>



As the Longo-bardic style of writing, which was introduced into England about the time of the Conquest, was disused, at least for a time, in the reign of Edward III, and as the letters are without those ornaments which distinguished the Longo-bardic on its revival, we may safely ascribe this monument to the thirteenth century. The unaffected piety and humility of the inscription is worthy of remark. I have met with inscriptions of this kind, still more concise, some few longer, but I never saw one that contained a panegyric on the deceased. The owner of this tomb was an ecclesiastic, and buried in the Chapel to which he probably belonged, which it is usually supposed, was founded in the year 1299 and called London College. On its re-erection, towards the close of the fourteenth century, when, perhaps, the college, and consequently its building, was curtailed, this monument, which was laid under the north wall, was excluded from the new building; and reluctant to disturb ashes which had long reposed on this spot, the builders vaulted over the coffin to secure it alike from injury and observation. But it was very rarely the practice of ancient times to appear thus indifferent to the monuments of their pious and distinguished brethren. On the contrary, we know that the translation of tombs and their ashes was a work of peculiar care and ceremony at all periods, and ornamented and inscribed as was this memorial to admonish the living and perpetuate the name of the dead, its concealment is indeed surprising and unaccountable.

At what period this tomb was violated and deprived of its mortal remains, is unknown; but there are grounds for supposing that its existence was ascertained when the large brick house near the Hall was built, as one of its angles rested on the arched roof of the sepulchre.

With a pious, proper, and laudable feeling, it had been ordered that the pavement of Guildhall Chapel, bearing in many places, the arms and inscriptions of the thickly-peopled ground beneath, should not be disturbed, but covered with a floor of wood to preserve the graves from premeditated or accidental injury. It were to be

<sup>1</sup> Two of these crosses, in almost perfect preservation, and of a brilliant red colour, are preserved by Mr. Mountague, who has also the care of the coffin, and to whom the writer of this article is indebted for his polite attention, in showing these antiquities, and his useful information on the subject.

wished that the chapel itself had been spared demolition. With a few skilfull alterations and additions, its triple aisles, which were of noble dimensions and handsome architecture, would have formed again a sacred edifice (for of sacred uses it had long been deprived) of uncommon beauty and interest. Its destruction too at a time when "new churches" are demanded, and our best efforts are exerted in the defence of antiquity, as well as to effect the adoption of its style in all its purity and excellence, is deeply to be regretted.

Time and ill usage often reduce our ancient churches to an alarming state of decadency. But till they become dangerous and irreparable, their removal should never be permitted to take place since experience proves that our age has not yet acquired the taste, if it possesses the science, to erect churches agreeable to their solemn appropriation.

At the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII, the College rejoiced in one custos or keeper, seven chaplains, three clerks, and four choristers. The value was assessed as being £12. 18s. 9d. per annum, a revenue which at this period was of course surrendered to the Crown. Subsequently, according to the following document, the Corporation petitioned Edward VI to allow it to purchase the College Chapel and Library, together with certain messuages and lands as are therein expressed, and in which the value of such site and buildings is clearly stated. The purchase was authorised by the King, on payment being made by the Corporation of the sum of £456. 13s. 4d., as shown by the Grant of Letters Patent, a copy of which follows this Petition.

Memorand that we the Mayre and Comynaltie of the City of Londoñ do require to have in gifte and purchas of the Kinge<sup>s</sup> Majestie the lands and heredytamen<sup>t</sup> conteyned and specyfyed in the ptielers and rates hereunto annexed being of suche clere yerelle as in the same ptielers and rat<sup>e</sup> is expressed. In witnes wherof to this bill we have put our comen seale the xxiiij<sup>th</sup> day of July in the thirde yere of the reigne of our soveraigne lorde Edwarde the sixt by the grace of God king of England Franunce and Irelande defendo<sup>r</sup> of the Faith and of the church of England and also of Irelande in earth the Supreme hedd.

PARTICULARS FOR GRANTS. [EXCHEQUER, COURT OF AUGMENTATIONS.] EDWARD VI.  
LONDON. MAYOR OF (SECTION 2).

THE COLLEGE OF YELDEHALL IN THE CITE OF LONDON.

The poche of St. Michael in Bassingeshall	Is worth in	The scite of the late College of Yeldehall w <sup>th</sup> all houses plor haule kechin sellors solars and xij chambres for pres <sup>t</sup> w <sup>th</sup> other thappteynn <sup>t</sup> abbutinge est upon Bassinghaw Strat west upon the Chappell of Yeldehall north upon the Grocers Land and South upon Blacke- wellhall is valued at . . . . .	xls.	Yeve by the kyngs Majestie to y <sup>e</sup> .....by y <sup>e</sup> advyce of y <sup>e</sup> cvj <sup>s</sup> . viij <sup>d</sup> . Lord Protectors grac ether of y <sup>e</sup> Counsell.
		The value of the Chappell ther called Yeldehall Chappell w <sup>th</sup> all glasse iron stone and timbre (leade excepte) by yere . . . . .	liijs. iiij <sup>d</sup> .	
		Therey rent or farme of a certen house nexte unto the sam Chapell apperteynyng called the Libraryall waies res <sup>t</sup> ved for studente to resorte unto w <sup>th</sup> three cham- bres under nithe the saide library which library being covered w <sup>th</sup> Slate is valued together w <sup>th</sup> the Chambres at	xiijs. iiij <sup>d</sup> .	

Memor<sup>d</sup> the late Custos and his Company upon his and their corporall othes taken before the Right honorable and worshipfull Commissioners appointed for the S<sup>ve</sup>y of Colleges . . . . . win the Cite of London depose that the hole house and chambres . . . . . the said Custos and Chapplens have their abiding and dwelling belongeth to the Maio<sup>r</sup> and cominaltie of the Cite of London and is their propre soite and groundes which the saied Maio<sup>r</sup> and cominaltie of their favorable goodnes and . . . . . liberaltie pmitt



the said Custos and chaplens to occupie and inhabite and further said that the said library is a house appointed by the said Maior and cominaltie for . . . . . resorte of all studen<sup>l</sup> for their education in Divine Scriptures.

The leade upon the said Chapell Hles and . . . . . is  
 esteemed at x fodder dī . . . . . x fodder dī

Memor<sup>d</sup> the belles plate and ornament<sup>l</sup> of the said Chapell to be res<sup>vd</sup> p me Hugone Losse.

The parochie of St. Giles without Cripalgate.	Is worth in	The ferme of divers teñtes therin the tenure of Thoñs Grevell by leas paying . . . . .	vjli. xiijs. iiijd.
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The parochie of St. Andrews Hubberd.	Is worth in	The ferme of one teñte therin the tenure of Wifm Tateham by Indenture paying... . . . .	iiijli.	viijli.
		The ferme of one other teñte therin the tenure of Henry Bateman by leas paying . . . . .	iiijli.	

p me Hugone Losse

xxiiij <sup>e</sup> die Julii anno iiij <sup>to</sup> R E vj <sup>a</sup> pro Maiore e Cōitate Civi <sup>l</sup> Londoñ.	The scyte of the said late Colleage w <sup>t</sup> the value of the chaple and the rent of the lybrarie yerlie . . .	evjs. viijd.
--	---	--------------

	The leade upon the same esteemed x fother <sup>s</sup> dī aftre the rate of iiijli the fother amounteth . . . . .	xliijli.
--	--	----------

All w<sup>th</sup> the Kinges Ma' by thadvyce of the Lorde Protector<sup>s</sup> Grace and other of his highnes Counsell is pleased freely to gyve to the Mayor and Aldermen of the saide Cyte aswell in considera<sup>o</sup>n of the good and faythfull industrie of the Cyte towards thadvancement of the Kinges Ma's syce in all poyntes as allsoo for that they canne in no wise forgoe the having of the same being soo neere adjoyning to their coffyn Guyde hall as by a lfe to usdyrected frome the saide Lorde Protector and the Councell in that behalf dated the xvj<sup>th</sup> of July 1549 may appeare

The clere yerelie value of the tent<sup>l</sup> aforesaide xiiijli xiijs iiijd w<sup>th</sup> rated at xij yer<sup>s</sup> purchas amounteth to clxxvjli.

To be paid all in hand

The Kinges Ma' to dischardege the purchasers of all encumbraun<sup>l</sup> except leases and the convenaun<sup>l</sup> in the same/ The tenure in socage or free burgage The purchasers to have thissues from thanūcia<sup>o</sup>n of o<sup>r</sup> Ladie last.

The belles plate and ornamentes of the saide chaple excepted

Ry, Sakervyle Wa: Mildmay Robt Keylley Irt p Thomam Wrenne  
 Lond Civit 13

Pcett terrarum et possessionū fundat in Ecclia S<sup>c</sup>i Martini Orgar Londoñ.

pochia S <sup>c</sup> i Michisin Croked Lane London.	val in	Firma minus tent in pochia S <sup>c</sup> i Michis in Croked Lane Londoñ dimis <sup>s</sup> Jofii Rochester p . . . . . Indentur <sup>l</sup> p Omñi annorum Reddend inde p annū	xxvj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup> at xiiij.
--	--------	--	--

Memorand this ten<sup>t</sup> was geven by Dame Margaret Mathew for an yerely annyv<sup>s</sup>ary to be kepte in the seid Churche for the soule of John Mathew her late husband.

p me Hugon<sup>e</sup> Losse.

xxj <sup>mo</sup> die M <sup>c</sup> ii anno iiij <sup>to</sup> R <sup>e</sup> evj <sup>a</sup> pro Johne Rochestre de London.	The clere yerelie value of the preamisses . . . . . w <sup>th</sup> rated at xiiij yer <sup>s</sup> purchas amounteth to . . .	xxvj <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup> xviijli xiijs iiijd
--	---	--

To be paide all in hand.

The Kinges Ma<sup>e</sup> to dischardege the purchasor of all incumbrance except leases and the coven<sup>nt</sup><sup>l</sup> in the same.  
 The tenure in socage or free burgage.

The purchasor to have thissans frome Michellmas last.

Ry, Sakevyle Wa: Mildmay Robt Keylley Ir̄ p Thomam Wrenne.

Rochester ..... Rochester for a purchas

John Rochester,

The Citie of London.

"Letters Patent<sup>1</sup> dated April 10, 4 Edw. VI (1550) granting, in consideration of £456. 13s. 4d. to the Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of the City of London ;

"All the site of the late College of 'le Yelde Hall alias dict' le Guildehall' in the parish of S<sup>t</sup> Michael in Bassyeshawe alias Bassingeshall', London, lately dissolved.

"And all that Chapel called 'le Yeldehall Chappell' and the ground, soil, glass, iron, stones, wood, and lead of the same Chapel.

"Also all that house and edifice there commonly called the Library, and all chambers and edifices under the same : and all houses, &c., within the circuit of the said late College or to the same belonging, and abutting East upon Basinghall Street, and upon the said Chapel towards the West, and upon the Grocers' Lands towards the North, and upon Blakewell Hall towards the South (except all bells and gold and silver vessels and ornaments to the said College belonging).

"To hold to the Mayor, &c., for ever."

As a result of the disestablishment, certain pensions were allowed to those who had been deprived of their religious occupation. Among those payable out of the Exchequer, or, rather, Augmentation office to the late Incumbents of Religious Houses and Chantries, Anno 1553, Primo Reginae Mariae, there appears the sums given, not only in connection with the different parishes in London, but likewise with the Churches in the different counties, under the head of London ; among many others, we note :—<sup>2</sup>

SCT LAUR IN VETERI JUDAISIMO PAROCH PENSIONES.

Thom. Sandall, nup conduct ...	...	...	...	...	£5
Tho. Sylvester ...	...	...	...	...	5
Tho. Rilerghie Incumbent ...	...	...	...	...	6
Rowland Robynson "	...	...	...	...	5
Henry Aldred "	...	...	...	...	5
Bob Golder und Ministro [one of the Ministers] ...	...	...	...	...	5

GUILDHALL COLLEGE.

Rob. Rogers }	...	...	...	...	...	5
Johis Richardson } Incumbent	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rob. Foxe }	...	...	...	...	...	5

ST. MARY ALDERMARIEBURIE POCH<sup>2</sup> PENCOES.

Rig. Ugle }	...	...	...	...	...	4
Johis Mordocke } Incumbent	...	...	...	...	...	5

After the Chapel and other buildings had passed into the hands of the Corporation service was still regularly performed within its walls at weekly intervals, and also on the occasion of the election of the Mayor, and likewise before the annual banquet, "in order," says Pennant, "to deprecate indigestion and all plethoric evils."

On the 5th November, 1559, 2 Elizabeth, it was decreed that there should be two weekly services, viz., on Tuesday and Thursday respectively, and that the Lord Mayor

<sup>1</sup> Patent Roll, 4 Edw. VI, p. 9 m (32)20.

<sup>2</sup> Summat Annuat Solūcon in hac Civitat. 1605, 16, 8. 188 Parishes with their Churches, Colleges, Religious Houses, &c., are mentioned in this list.

and Aldermen should at their convenience be expected to attend. The minute as recorded is as follows :—

"For dyuers considercons movynge the Cōte here yt was this daye orderyd by the same that there shalbe wekely from hensforth sayd in the Guyldhall Chapple vpon the Tnsdayes and Thursdayes at eight of the Clok of eyther of the same dayes the latynce and ij or three suche collects as the priest shall thynke moste mete, and that my Lord Mayre and as meny of my maysters thaldremen as conveniently maye intende yt shall vpon eyther of the sayde dayes cōme vnto the sayde s<sup>r</sup>vyce before the begynnynge of their Cōts and that the same s<sup>r</sup>vyce shall begyn vpon Thursdaye next."<sup>1</sup>

A few years later we find that the organmaker connected with the Chapel had been accustomed to receive a small amount annually for keeping the organ belonging to the Chapel in repair, and that, owing to old age and infirmities, a small pension was awarded to him. It is recorded that on the 9th July, 1565, 8th Elizabeth, that :—

"Where John Howe, Organmaker, being nowe very weeke and olde man haith of a longe tyme paste had of the Citie by the handes of the Chamberlyn ij<sup>a</sup> a yere for the mendinge and trymmyng of the Cities Organs in the Guildehall Chappell, yt was this daye vpon his humble sewte made vnto the Courte here, for there charitable Ayde and comforte to him to be graunted, agreed that he shulde haue of the ffre gifte of the saide Courte xx<sup>s</sup> a yere duringe his naturall lief to be payde quarterly by the handes of the Chamberlyn for the tyme beinge."<sup>2</sup>

In that quaint old record, Machyn's "Diary," the chronicler refers to some of the services which at this period it was customary to hold within the Chapel. He writes under the year 1554 :—"The vj day of May was a goodly evyns song at Yeldhall Colege by the Masters of the Clarkes and the fellowshyppe of Clarkes, with syngyng and playing, as youe have heard. (The morrow after was a great Mass at the same place, by the same fraternity, when every clerk offered a halfpenny. The Mass was sung by divers of the Queen's Chapel and children.) The xxvij day of May, 1555, was the Clarkes possessyon from Yeldhall Colege, and a goodly Masse be heard (or has been heard), and evere Clarke havyng a crosse and garland, with c (hundred) shewers borne, and the whettes (waits) playing round Chepe, and so to Ledynhall (unto St. Albro Chyrche) (Ethelburga), and there they put off their gayre (gear), and there was the blesyd Sacrament borne with torch light about, and from thens unto Barbur-hall to dener." The chronicler further refers to the "tomb of Sir Thomas Kneysworth, late Mare of London, as being repaired by John Bullock, xvij of June, 1562."

Of the various entries in the records which relate to special services in the Chapel, and to the arrangements made for the convenience of the Mayor and Aldermen, together with those for the comfort of the public generally, there is one worthy of mention inasmuch as it refers to a custom which was adopted in connection with the business then carried on at Blackwell Hall, which adjoined the Chapel. From the following it will be seen that it was the practice for the clothiers to attend an early morning service previous to entering on the business of the day :—

"28th April, 1631, 7th Charles I. Item, it is ordered by this Court that the Reader for the tyme being in the Guildhall Chappell shall yerely hereafter from our Lady-day to Michās vpon every Thursday in the weeke preach there and beginne at seaven of the clocke in the morning, to the end the clothiers of Blackwellhall, London,

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book T, fol. 13 b.

<sup>2</sup> Letter Book V, fol. 34.

before their Marketts doe on that day open, may wth others repayre thethr to heare the devine word of God preached. And it is alsoe ordered by this Court that the said Reader shall for the pformance of that service be allowed and paid out of the Chamber of London the some of Twenty Marks per anfl to continue during the pleasure of this Court."

Though injured and defaced at the time of the Great Fire of 1666, it was not burnt down and destroyed. It was re-edified or restored, and in Maitland's time it appears to have been a handsome building. The windows he describes as spacious; there was a gallery at the west end. The walls were hung with tapestry, and a wainscot covering was placed over the seats appropriated for the use of the Aldermen, one particular seat being for the Lord Mayor, adorned with cartouches, a handsome wainscot pulpit and desk, and a neat altar-piece enclosed with rails and banisters.<sup>1</sup> In course of time the services were discontinued, and the Chapel at last converted into a justice-room. In the year 1782-3<sup>2</sup> it was found that the business connected with the various Courts of Law at Guildhall had so much increased that further accommodation was necessary; and among other propositions made was one that the Chapel should be utilised. Some discussion took place, and various plans for adapting the building to the purpose required were submitted; and ultimately it was determined to construct a raised floor and two temporary rooms in the Chapel.

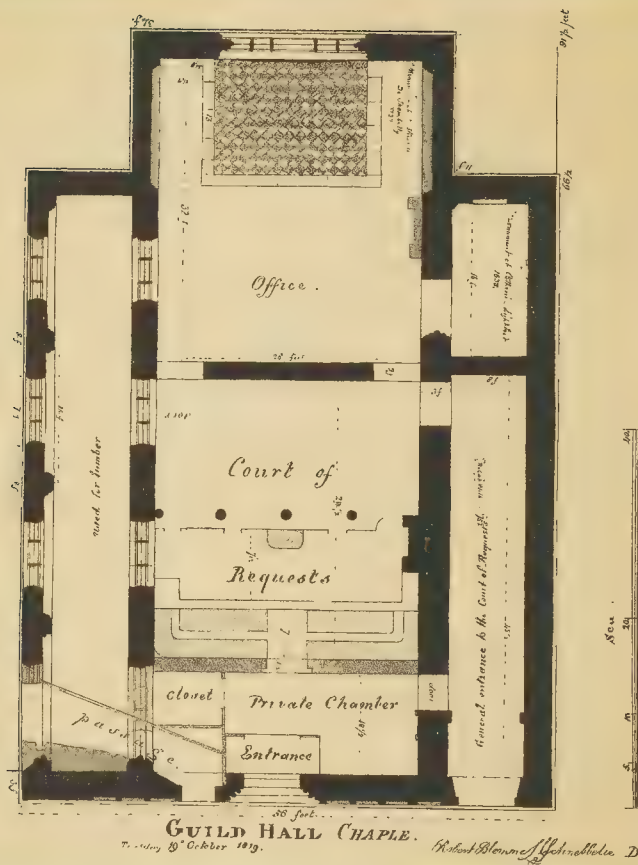
The building thus became devoted to secular uses, and as the Court of Requests so continued until its destruction for the erection of the various Law Courts in the year 1822.

Among the illustrations selected both of the exterior and interior of the Chapel for this work are an interesting series of fac-similes of some highly artistic drawings in sepia, executed in the year 1820 by Mr. J. C. Buckler, likewise a ground plan of the building as drawn by R. B. Schnebbelie in the year 1819, together with a representation of the interior in the year 1815 by the same artist. The copies of the entire series have been taken from the originals which are preserved in the Library of the Corporation. The dimensions of the building as shown on the plan, were 56 feet frontage to the Guildhall Yard, and 81 feet 6 inches from east to west wall of the nave, but the side aisles are 15 feet less in length and thus it may be considered that the chancel was 15 feet in depth. The internal length of the nave was 75 feet 6 inches and the width 28 feet, the width of the side aisles 8 feet, and total width, including nave wall, 50 feet. The basement or foundation walls still existing are about 3 feet 6 inches in thickness, above which the remains are 3 feet thick. The depth visible of these from the external pavement in Guildhall Yard, is about 7 feet, but probably they were taken down to the clay or maiden soil. The walls are delineated on the plan with the exception of that on north aisle wall, which cannot now be traced. They were built upon a series of piers and arches of about 11 feet span. The face being of random rag and chalk with grouted rubble core. These walls resemble those beneath the Court of Exchequer, but the arches are of pointed form with well-built skew-back. A portion of a moulded arch remains in the south-east angle of the chancel. It is barely discernible and has been apparently supported by a brick pier and cemented over to keep it together. It appears like the remains of an arched entrance to a crypt beneath the altar or a vault. There exists no material evidence of an undercroft below the Chapel

<sup>1</sup> Maitland's "History of London," vol. ii, p. 885.

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 45, fol. 265b.





FROM THE ORIGINAL DRAWING IN THE COLLECTION OF J. H. GARDNER, ESQ., F.R.S.A.

W. Griggs, Photo-lith.







WEST FRONT OF GUILDHALL CHAPEL.



beyond that just mentioned, and a small surface of a Purbeck stone pavement remains "in situ" at the east end of the south aisle at about 8 feet 6 inches depth. The area generally, with some exceptions, was probably occupied with the natural soil and made ground upon which the pavements at the present level of Guildhall Yard were bedded. This was the burial ground of the Chapel where had been interred so many of the officials associated with the Corporation, and to whom reference has been already made.

In the absence of any recorded evidence it can only be assumed that when the Chapel for which Henry VI granted his Royal License was rebuilt the nave was arcaded in accordance with the usual arrangement, the openings corresponding with the Clerestory windows. The plan of 1750 clearly shews four openings at the chancel and west end, having shafted and moulded responds or piers, and some similar openings can be traced on the plan of 1819. There is an indication of an arch upon the south side of the interior to be seen in the illustration which may reasonably lead to the supposition that the arches were of pointed form. It is probable that the ancient roof of the Chapel harmonised with that of the Hall, but having a lower pitch suited to the character of the edifice and being open timber framing it shared a like fate to the adjacent building in the Fire of 1666.

It would appear from the illustration that the nave was lighted by four Clerestory windows in each side wall and also four windows in the north aisle wall. From the immediate contiguity of Blackwell Hall to the south aisle there could not have been any admission of light after the time of the erection of the building, but previously four windows may have existed in the wall. The two at the east and west ends complete the lighting of the sacred edifice. In connection with the north aisle windows, it will be noticed that they appear to be sunk from the face of the wall and an engaged shaft on each pier in order to support the roof.

The illustration of the west front of Guildhall Chapel presents an interesting group. The lower part of the Chapel wall was enriched by seven small panels having arched and cusped heads divided by narrow buttresses, all setting upon a high weathered basement. These flanked the doorway in the centre of the building. The jambs were enriched with engaged shafts and mouldings from which sprung the arched head enclosed in a square-moulded frame with carved quatre-foiled spandrels and shields of arms, the whole forming a richly ornamented entrance to the Chapel.

The face of the wall on either side of the west window was enriched by similar panelling of three divisions in height and width, with traceried transoms. This panelling was a specialty of the period. The glorious west window was of 7 lights, the mullions rising direct from the sill to the four-centered arch, these enclosed a series of richly traceried panel lights. The hood and story mouldings had lost their original character. This window was a perfect example of the perpendicular style—fully illustrating those peculiar features whence the name was derived. The lights were not divided horizontally by transoms, so frequently adopted, but their absence from the windows of this Chapel (with one exception) may be considered a peculiarity.

Abutting upon the south of the Chapel was Blackwell Hall, as seen in the illustration. The building had an extended front of brickwork of about 105 feet in length, with a bold over-hanging corner and pediment, supported by carved modillions. A moulded

Blackwell  
Hall.

plinth and two string courses relieved the face, dividing the stories of window openings with their solid frames, and dormers projected from the roof. In the centre was a very massive entrance adorned with columns entablature and panel charged with the Royal Arms. This Hall is well shewn upon the plan of 1750 and occupied a large area, having a depth of about 188 feet and a frontage to Guildhall Yard of about 105 feet.

This property had belonged to one Sir Roger de Clifford the elder. It is spoken of as a messuage in St. Michael Bassieshaw, upon which John de Banquette, Alderman of Dowgate Ward, has a confirmation and quit claim. This document bear date 17th June, 1293.<sup>1</sup> Its site is now indicated by the Bankruptcy Court and Guildhall Buildings. The building originally appears to have been the property of the families of the Basings and the Cliffords, subsequently passing to the Banquettes or Bankwells, whence the name is derived. Stow remarks that a Thomas Bakewell dwelt in the house in the thirty-sixth year of Edward III, but it appears that there is an earlier reference to both the building and its owner preserved among the City archives, viz., in the reign of Edward I. In the year 1337, viz., in the eleventh year of the King's reign, in the time of Thomas de Maryns, Chamberlain, it appears that 76 pieces of timber, then in the Guildhall, were removed and laid in the lesser garden of the same Guildhall,<sup>2</sup> and placed under a wall there to the chamber of the late John de Bankwell adjoining; of this timber, 42 pieces were afterwards used in repairing the gate of Crepelgate by Richard de Berkyng, Alderman, and Thomas de Maryns, Chamberlain. Upon the same day and year, viz., 25th January, 1337, there were taken into the cellar of the same Guildhall 24 stones unwrought, and many other stones that were wrought, which were in the said garden in the lodge there, were likewise removed to the said cellar. Portions of this so-called cellar may still be said to exist, viz., as forming part of the western end of the present Crypt. As mentioned in another section, the remains of this portion of the Crypt are undoubtedly of very early date, and may be considered as belonging to the foundations of the first Guildhall.

In the year 1356 "Bakkewehalle" is mentioned in connection with the endowment of one of the chantries in St. Mary's Chapel. In the record already quoted, it will be seen that it is the late John de Bankewell which is mentioned long prior to 1337. Sir John had died as early as the reign of Edward II, and on the 15th August, 1314, mention is made of the Lady Cecily, his widow. On this occasion, Lady Joanna, the relict and executrix of Sir Thomas de Lodelawe, knight, appeared before Nicholas de Fardone, the then Mayor, and the Aldermen, for the purpose of acknowledging that she had received and had by delivery from the Lady Cecily, who was the wife of the late Sir John de Bacquette, knight and citizen of London, and Thomas, son of the said John, a certain chest bound with iron, with all the goods in the same chest contained, such chest having been formerly delivered by the said Sir Thomas de Lodelawe, to be kept as a deposit in the house aforesaid, with two locks securely and strongly closed, all suspicion of breaking the same, or of fraud, being removed. And the keys of these locks were always kept in his own possession by the said

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book C, fol. 6, 1293.

<sup>2</sup> See Riley's "Memorials," p. 195. Stow's "Survey," p. 108.



WEST VIEW OF GUILDHALL CHAPEL AND BLACKWELL HALL.





Sir Thomas de Lodelawe to the day of his death; and after his death the Lady Joanna aforesaid found them lying close at hand among the keys of the coffers of the said Sir Thomas; wherefore she acquitted the said Lady Cecily and Thomas, son of Sir John, as to the same chest and all in it contained. And the same Lady Joanna gave the said chest to Thomas before-mentioned to do therewith as he might think fit.<sup>1</sup> Thomas, the son, is evidently the member of the family referred to by Stow as living in the house in the reign of Edward III.

The next mention of the Hall appears to be that in the reign of Richard II, A.D. 1398, when having fallen to the crown it was sold by the King with its adjacent gardens, &c., to the Mayor and Corporation for fifty pounds, it was then thrown open as a market-place for the sale of all descriptions of woollen cloth. The rules and ordinances by which this arrangement was governed are set forth at length and preserved in a document written in Norman French, and kept among the City records. These rules are worth quoting here, as marking the change which took place when the building ceased to be a private residence, and became dedicated to purposes of public utility and convenience. "By assent of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of London, it is ordered that no manner of person, foreigner or stranger, bringing woollen cloth to the said City for sale, shall house, show or sell the same at any other place within the said City, or in the suburbs thereof, than at Bakwellehalle, which is by the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty thereunto especially appointed and assigned, on pain of forfeiture of all woollen to the contrary hereof housed, shown or sold. And that no person, foreigner or stranger shall sell any manner of woollen cloth at the said Bakwellehalle, at any time in the week, except between eleven of the clocke before noon on Thursday and eleven of the clocke before noon on Saturday, on pain of forfeiture of all cloth sold to the contrary hereof."

"Whereas the foreign drapers, bringing woollen cloths to the City of London for sale, do sell the same in divers hostelrys in secret, where they make many disorderly and deceitfull bargains, as well between foreigner and foreigner as between foreigner and freeman, to the great scandal and damage of all the City, and against the franchises and liberties of the same by the noble progenitors of our most dread lord the King granted, and by the same our lord the King of late confirmed, and against the customs of the said City; in order to avoid such disorderly and deceitfull bargains, and that the commons of the said City and others unto it repairing, may have full notice where such cloths are for sale, and also that our said Lord the King may be better paid his custom and other duties upon the said cloths. Richard Whityngtone, Mayor, and the Aldermen, with the assent of the Commons of the said City, have ordained that every foreign draper, from whatsoever part he shall bring woollen cloths into the said City to sell, shall take the same wholly to Bakwellehalle in the said City, and nowhere else within the franchise of the same City, on pain of forfeiture of all cloths that shall be otherwise housed; and that no foreign or alien merchant shall buy any such manner of cloths of such foreign drapers otherwise than at the said place of Bakwellehalle, under the same penalty. And that the same foreign drapers shall make their show and sale of their said cloths on certain days and at certain hours in the week, at the same place, according to the ancient custom, and not otherwise: that is to say, from Thursday at mid-day until the same hour on the Saturday following, on pain of forfeiture of all cloth otherwise sold. And that the said foreign drapers from henceforth shall bring unto the said place no cloth for sale except whole cloths and half cloths listed at both ends, on pain of forfeiting so much as shall be found made to the contrary. And this ordinance shall begin to take effect on the Thursday next after the Feast of St. Mathew, 21 September, now next to come, in the 23rd year<sup>2</sup> of the reign of King Richard II."

<sup>1</sup> Riley's "Memorials," p. 111.

<sup>2</sup> With respect to the year, Mr. Riley has observed that the words "*viynt tierce*" in the document are over an erasure. There is evidently some error, as Whittington was not Mayor in any part of this year of Richard II. In 1399 Henry IV became King.

The date here given must be inaccurate. Stow says that the prohibition as to the sale of foreign cloth, with its attendant penalties, was decreed in the 21st of Richard II, R. Whittington, Mayor, and in the 22nd by Sir Drew Barentine, Mayor. The latter, it may be here remarked, was the first Alderman of Farringdon Within after the Ward had been divided. The appointment of keeper of Blackwell House appears to have been vested in the Drapers' Company, and to have been given to them by Henry VIII through the interest of Sir John Styles with Cardinal Wolsey, who was in high favour with the King. At this period the cloth-trade of the country with the Netherlands was an important section of British commerce, but disputes with the Emperor abroad existed, and it was thought these would probably end in war, therefore the citizens engaged in the cloth trade shrewdly "refused to buy those cloths which were brought to Blackwell Hall, in London, whereupon the clothiers, spinners and carders, in many shires of England, began to mutiny; for appeasing whereof the Cardinal (Wolsey) commanded our merchants to take off those cloths at a reasonable price from the poor men's hands, threatening, otherwise, that the King himself should buy them and sell them to strangers; but the sullen merchants, little moved herewith, said they had no reason to buy commodities they knew not how to vend; therefore, whatever was proposed for staples at Calais, 'at Abbeville' (the English staple being then at Antwerp) our merchants did not, or at least would not, understand it." A warning, it appears, was given to the fellowships of Drapers "that evy yomen to his power should by woollen clothes of cloth-makers to putt them in good comfort and not otherwise under the penalty mentioned." It is at this period that an entry is recorded of the mode of giving the appointment above referred to. The keeper of the time having just deceased, Sir John Brugge, George Milbourne, William Bayley, John Sule, and others, assembled at the Hall. The choice fell on a Mr. Starkey, and the following was the ceremony of his installation: "He was taken to the Mayor's Court at Guildhall to be accepted, being accompanied there by the above Sir John Brugge, &c., and twelve sureties, '*aftr an olde custom.*' Then the Maior and Aldermen aft a pawse takyn went down to the grete gate of Blackwell Hall, and commanded my lady Fenkyll to send him the kees: which to doo with assent with our Mas<sup>r</sup> and Wardan's she was content. And then the Mair toke the kees to the Chamlyn and commandy<sup>d</sup> him to open the door and there win the same Hall the Master put Mr. Starkey in full possession of that office."

In the Court Books belonging to the Drapers' Company there is an entry bearing the date, 1405, of an order issued by the Court of Common Council to the effect that the keepership of the Hall should continue in the hands of the Company, and the same records contain an account of the election of such an officer on the 25th September, 1526. I am informed by Mr. Sawyer, Clerk of the Company, that it does not appear from the minute-books in their possession when the Keeper of the Hall ceased to be elected by the Company.

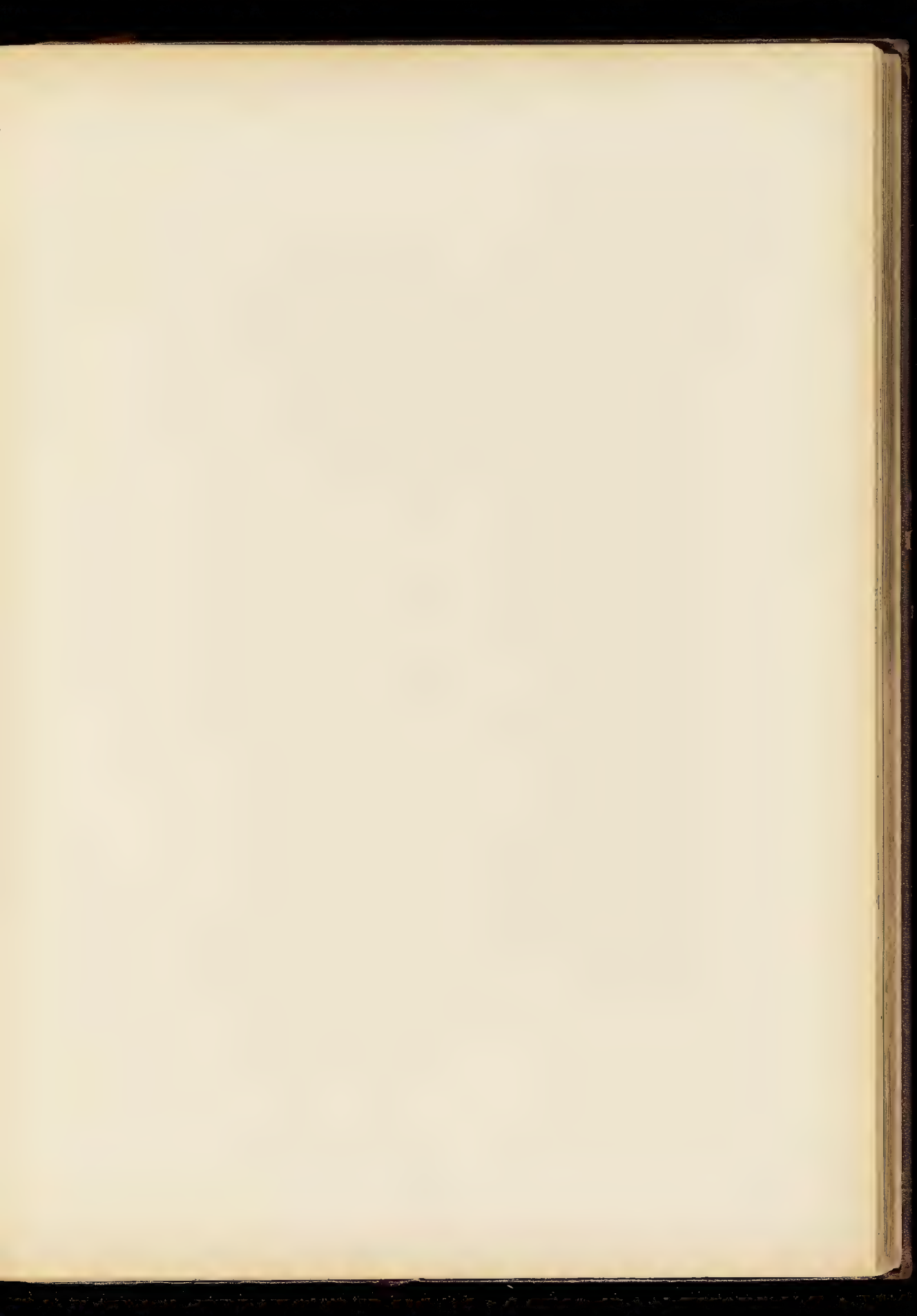
In the year 1658 the old building had become so ruinous that it had to be pulled down, and was rebuilt at an outlay of two thousand five hundred pounds. To this sum the principal contributor was Richard May, Citizen and Mercer. It was entirely destroyed in

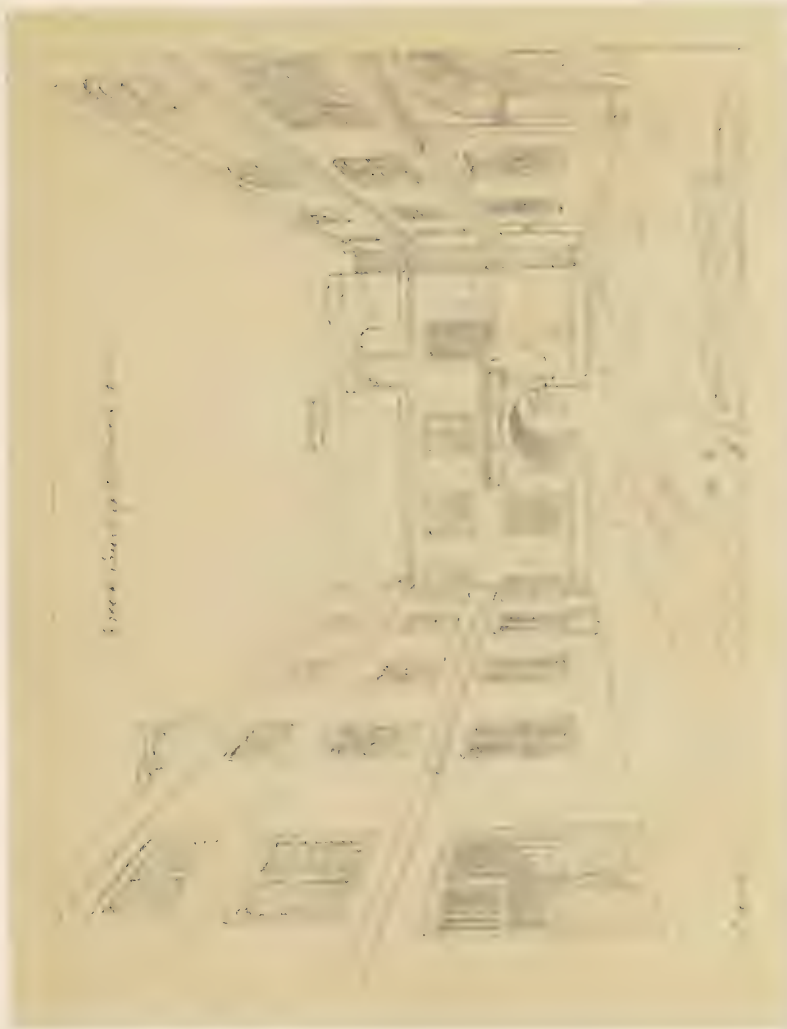


BLACKWELL HALL









W. Oregon, Photograph.

FROM THE ORIGINAL DRAWING IN THE COLLECTION OF J. F. GARDNER, JR., F.S.A.

the Great Fire of 1666, and the structure of which we have an illustration, was erected in the year 1672. The building was a square one with two Courts, the larger of the two we have also the advantage of representing, both being fac-similes from drawings in the Gardner Collection. The two courts were surrounded with warehouses. The gateways for carriages were spacious; one entrance being from Guildhall Yard, and the other from Basinghall Street. The doorway of the former is well shown in Shepherd's drawing. The side columns of the Doric order; an entablature and a pediment adorned with the King's Arms, together with those of the Corporation enriched with figures. It is recorded that upon one occasion when the Royal carriage was passing through this gateway, the crown on top was broken off, which at that time was regarded by the superstitious as an evil omen to the then Prince of Wales, who however kept his crown to the day of his death. The buildings within comprised apartments or warehouses known respectively as the Devonshire, Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, the Kentish, the Medley, the Spanish and the Blanket Halls. Upon every piece of cloth was fixed a charge of one penny for pitching, and a halfpenny a week for custody. The revenue raised from these sources was applied towards the support of Christ's Hospital, the management of the Hall and its affairs being vested in the Governors.<sup>1</sup> There are numerous references throughout the City Records relative to preventing the buying and selling of foreign cloth, the Rates of Hallage, Portage, &c., likewise to the office of Alnager, the officer whose business it was to inspect, measure, and seal the woollen cloths. The name is derived from the French "aulne," in English an "ell." The authority possessed by this officer was given by Edward III in the years 1350-1, and was finally abolished by Statute 11 and 12, William III in the year 1700. Blackwell Hall was removed altogether in 1820. Its contemplated demolition is frequently referred to in the civic archives, and a record appears stating that on the 6th July of that year it was ordered "that the old stores in Guildhall Chapel and Blackwell Hall be sold by public auction under the direction of the Clerk of the City works."<sup>2</sup>

The entrance to the Court of Requests with the lunette and another window are evidently later alterations and also the small doorway in the principal entrance. The modern doorway on the left opens on to a passage which cut off the north-west corner of the Chapel, to connect the passage-way between the Guildhall Yard and Basinghall Street; this was formerly outside the turret. It was blocked up when the façade was erected and appears upon the illustration of the west front. By reference to the view of the north side, this modern passage entrance can be traced, and also a small house abutting on the Chapel and the façade of the Hall.

In the engraving which represents both the south-east view of the Chapel and Blackwell Hall it may be seen that the east end of the Chapel and a portion of the south wall of the nave is shown. The east window of five lights is similar in its general features to the west window, but over the centre light a transom was inserted. The opening was finished with a hood moulding. Two of the Clerestory windows are visible. A part of Blackwell Hall is shown; with about one-half of the Court-yard and its buildings, also an elliptical archway.

<sup>1</sup> Journal lxxvi, fol. 250.

<sup>2</sup> Journal Committee City Lands, vol. cxii, p. 20.

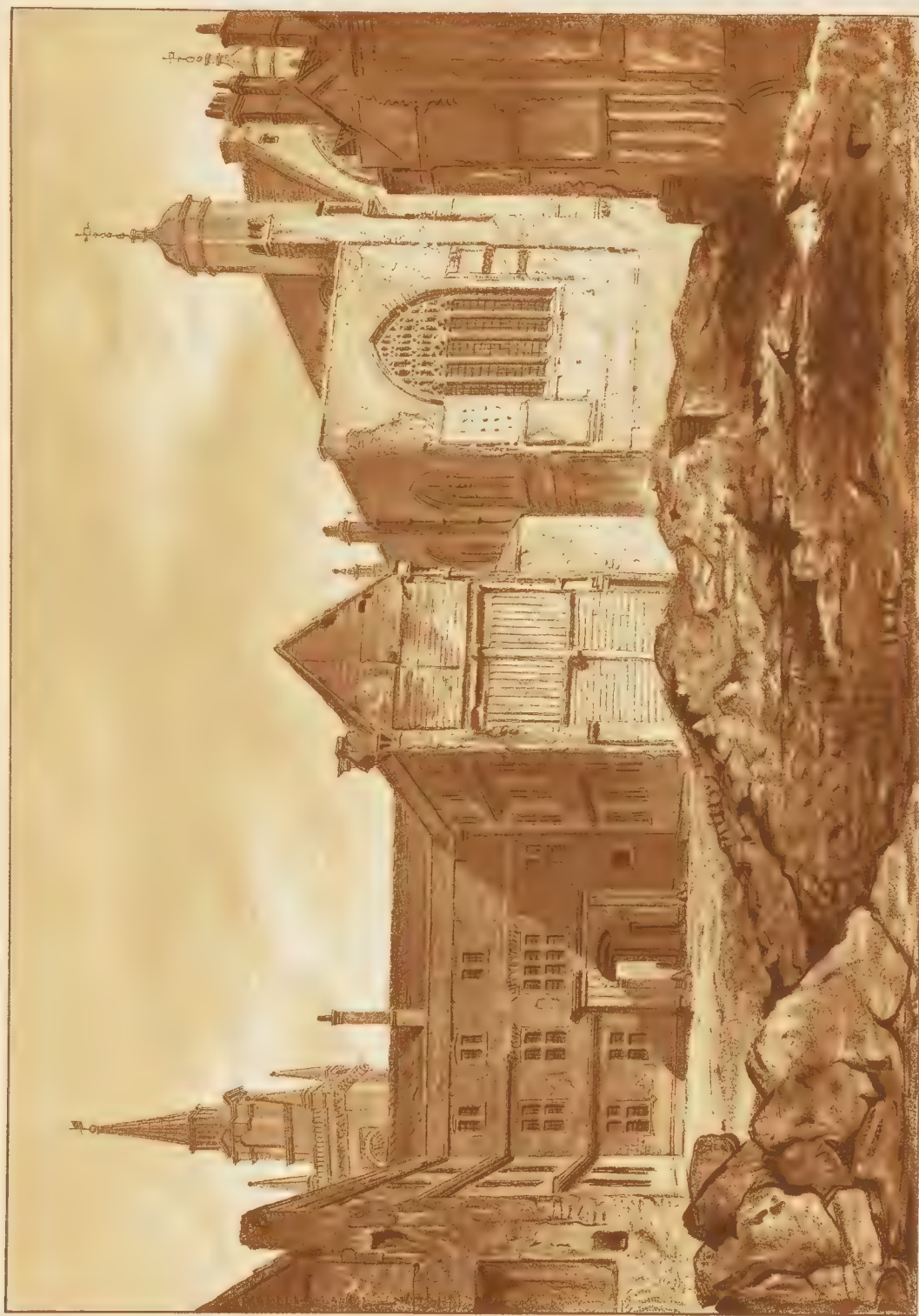
The tower and spire of St. Laurence Jewry appear well on the left, and the east end of the Guildhall with turrets and cupolas; likewise the gable, east window and the south wall built after the Fire by Sir C. Wren. The foreground represents the debris from the Blackwell Hall demolition. In the illustration of the north side of the building may be seen the side walls of the nave and aisle with the windows before-mentioned. The nave windows had traceried lights enclosed in a pointed arch and deep moulding. The aisle windows assume a more obtuse form, and the absence of subordinate lights in the head is observable. Both these examples are of the ordinary kind in use at this period. This side of the Chapel requires but little further comment. On the left is the Hall-Keeper's House, shown on the plan of 1750; the base of the south-east turret occupies the right and the entrance doorway to the passage giving access to the way between the Guildhall Yard and Basinghall Street, and a house built at that spot since 1750, also the pinnacles of the new façade are shewn.

The plan of 1750 is interesting and explanatory of the interior arrangements of the Chapel. It was fitted with pews, pulpit, altar-rails, &c. In the nave walls, the four arched openings are seen, the others having probably been filled in to enclose the nave, the aisles not being used except as avenues of communication. A western porch connected the entrance doorway with the side aisles and a small entrance opened into the south aisle, and the stairs in the turret on the north-west angle were accessible from the north aisle. The vestry is seen to be connected with the Hall-Keeper's Yard as a way of access. No windows are placed in the south aisle wall. The entrance to the passage-way at the turret is by a doorway and steps clear of the Chapel, and there appears to be a barrier across the thoroughfare. It may be noticed that after the Fire, the nave walls were raised and finished with a parapet and stone coping, and it is presumed that a flat roof was then placed over the nave and that the aisles were then covered with a lean-to roof behind coped parapets. The view of the interior in 1815 shows the Court of Requests occupying the east end of the Chapel and the chequered marble pavement belonging to the altar is also indicated upon the plan of 1819.

Perhaps after Mr. Nichols published his "Brief Account of Guildhall," at the commencement of the year 1819, the Court was moved to the west end and the east end converted into an office. It will be seen that the plan is dated 19th October, 1819. The ceiling of the nave was flat with small panels, and a bold enriched, and coved cornice, all in plaster, was connected with the walls and ceiling. One of the nave windows and the arch below it, also the east window with a single transom, and the shields charged with the City Arms is carefully delineated, and with the sitting and business of the Court being carried on, under the draped canopy and other accessories, it presents a quaint and valuable record of the past.

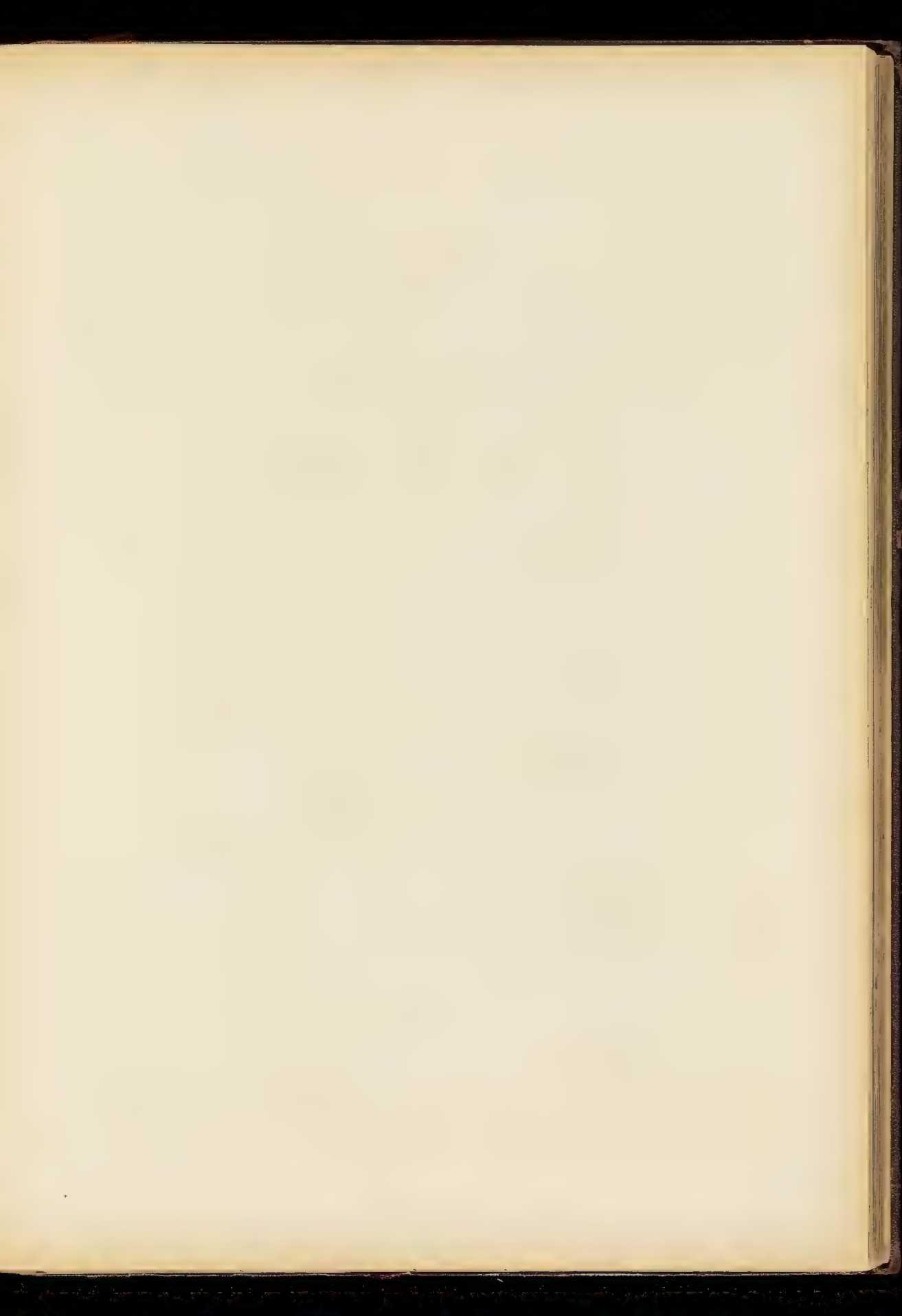
The different views referred to, give in detail the architectural features of a highly interesting building, one only removed as recently as the year 1822, and of which but few indications remain, save in the wall and foundations existing





SOUTH EAST VIEW OF GUILDHALL CHAPEL AND BLACKWELL HALL.





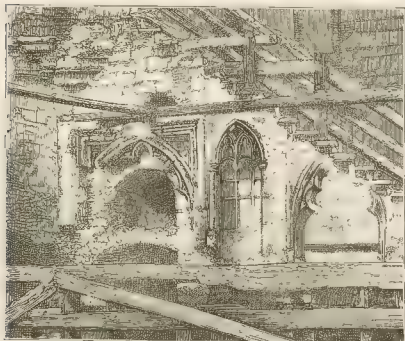




NORTH SIDE OF GUILDHALL CHAPEL.



beneath the modern structures. An interesting fragment was, however, disclosed some time ago. It is well represented by the annexed woodcut, and possibly illustrates a chantry or oratory attached to the later building. That there should have ever been any necessity for the removal of a structure so closely associated with the History of the



REMAINS OF GUILDHALL CHAPEL.

Corporation is much to be regretted, for it can be at once seen from the various representations of it which have been preserved, and are re-produced in the present volume, that it was a building well illustrating the style of architecture in favour at the time of its erection; and one that held no insignificant position in comparison with the numerous civil and ecclesiastical buildings which adorned our City.

It will be noticed in the various views of the exterior of this building that before the Great West Window there stood in niches surmounted by

arched canopies of the classic style of architecture, so much in fashion at the beginning of the 17th century, three statues well designed and all highly-finished specimens of sculpture.

At the time when the Chapel was pulled down these figures were removed for a time (probably by the contractors) to a mason's shop in Eastcheap, for Allen<sup>1</sup> remarks that one or more of them were to be seen there, and expresses his regret that they were not placed in the vacant niches at the east end of St. Lawrence's Church. They were, however, subsequently restored to the custody of the Corporation, for it appears that arrangements were made in the years 1837 and 1838 for their preservation at the east end of the Guildhall. In the former year, viz., on the 14th December, 1837,<sup>2</sup> it had been determined that a plan for making both ends of the Hall harmonise with each other should be adopted, on the ground that such would add very considerably to the general magnificent appearance of the building; and it was decided that Gothic panelling should be put up at the east end, which would correspond with that in other portions of the Hall; and in the report of a meeting in connection with this decision some three months later we find a reference to the three figures, and that arrangements were to be made for their conservation in this portion of the building. Upon a report made by the Clerk of the Works to the Committee who had charge of the alterations, it was found "that the three statues formerly in front of the Chapel in Guildhall Yard were in the possession of the Corporation, and might, in his opinion, be put into a state of repair, at an expense of about £60, and be introduced at the east end of the Hall in niches agreeably to a design prepared by him for that purpose." The Committee, in accepting the tender

<sup>1</sup> Allen's "History of London," vol. iii, p. 104.

<sup>2</sup> Journal cxiv, fol. 38b.

for the execution of the works generally, authorised the restoration of the figures on the ground that in their opinion "the introduction of the said statues will add much to the effect and general character of the building."<sup>1</sup> In a report submitted on the 14th March, 1839, it appears that the various alterations were completed, and that the figures had been placed on suitable pedestals<sup>2</sup> corresponding architecturally to the other portion of the work.

At the time, however, when the arrangements for the new timber roof were progressing, in the year 1865, and a Gothic panelling of wood-work to harmonise therewith was substituted at the east end of the Hall for the stone-work referred to, the statues were again removed—they were taken to one of the yards, and subsequently placed beneath the present Courts of Law, and indeed but a short distance from their original situation. With the formation of the corridor leading to the new Library and other local changes; their existence by degrees was overlooked until within the last few months, when they were extricated from the subterranean ruins of the building they had once adorned, and having been carefully cleaned, are now to be seen in a very suitable position, and one where they will be preserved, viz., on the staircase leading from the Library to the Museum.

They comprise, first, the life-size effigy of a King clad in plate armour of early 17th century character, the details of which are carefully executed, and over which he wears a fur-lined mantle, thrown open to display the figure. His right arm, which is raised and bent, holds the handle of what appears to be a sceptre, the head of which would be above his right shoulder. The left hand supports the folds of the mantle, which has a cape with a fringed border. Over the whole appears an elegant Vandyked lace collar. Around his neck is seen the collar of roses and the knots of the Order of the Garter and the George hangs therefrom on his breast. The effigy wears a regal crown, consisting of a jewelled border with *fleurs-de-lis* and crosses *patée* above, the whole surmounted by a double arch. This crown is worn on what appears to be a fur-lined cap, with a turned-up front and back flap. The arrangement of the hair, which is wavy, is, with the collar and lace cuffs, turned over the armour at the wrists, in accordance with the fashion of the time above indicated. As regards the armour, the details of which, though well presented, do not indicate a very high class of work, the following description will suffice. It consists of a breast-plate and back, broad tassets of five plates, dependent from the waist and reaching to mid thigh, demi-cuissards, genouillères, jambeaux and articulated round-toed sollerets (with spurs), covering and defending respectively the thighs, knees, legs and feet. The arms are similarly protected by pauldrons (scarcely visible beneath the mantle), rerebraces, condières and vambraces, for, respectively, the shoulders, upper arms, elbows and fore arms. The whole is enriched by vertical wavy bands of ornamentation, exhibiting *fleurs-de-lis* and conventionally-treated foliage. Beneath the cuirass and tassets is worn a stout sort of tunic with a fringed lower edge, the whole reaching nearly to the knees. On the left leg is seen the Garter. No gauntlets are worn, and the left hand is placed close to the site of the sword-hilt, unfortunately broken off, and over which the cordons of the mantle, with their rich tassels, hang nearly

<sup>1</sup> Journal cxiv, fol. 231b.

<sup>2</sup> Journal cxv, fol. 387b.

to the knee. The left foot is placed on a conventionally-treated snake or dragon, which is endeavouring to glide over a cannon ball or orb. Over the right shoulder, and crossing the body diagonally, is a baldric-fashioned sword-belt, ornamented with embroidered crosses and *fleurs-de-lis*. It may be noted that the representation of the "taces" or "tassets" referred to is in accordance with those to be seen on the effigies of the Pikemen of this period, various examples of which may be recognised in the collection at the Tower of London and elsewhere.

The second is a regally crowned female figure, the head inclined, and the charming face executed with a care that stamps it as a genuine portrait. In the left hand is an orb, surmounted by a cross, the other hand has been destroyed. Although the right hand is now absent, it was in existence at the time the figure was placed in the Hall; and is said to have grasped a metal sceptre. In general treatment, this effigy presents a striking contrast to the others. While they may be described as illustrations of ordinary work, this has evidently not been executed by the same sculptor. It is a fine piece of sculpture, and designed by a gifted artist. In the details of the various articles of dress there is a marked absence of display; they are chaste and elegant and admirably treated. The style of the drapery is fanciful and not indicative of any very precise period, although it accords with a fashion which, coming in at about the time the statues would have been put up, continued throughout the eighteenth century and on to a comparatively recent period. The girdle is jewelled, and the borders of the veil and upper garments are embroidered. There is a jewel above the forehead where the veil divides.

The third is a youthful figure, attired in costume similar to that worn by Edward VI, consisting of a loose fitting coat, reaching to mid thigh, with full trunks and tight hose, the former "garded" with slashed vertical bands; over all is a fur-lined mantle, thrown back, and a furred cape, reaching half-way down the breast; the cordons are visible in front. The collar of the shirt is shallow and pleated vertically; the shoes are pinked and without roses. He is represented in a serious and thoughtful attitude and with one hand laid across his breast; he is not fully crowned, neither does he carry orb or sceptre. On the left leg appears the Order of the Garter, and upon his hat is a row of pearls around the brim, and above are the arches of a regal crown.

Much uncertainty has, it appears, always existed as to the persons who are represented by these interesting statues, for singularly enough the period of their erection is not at present known, neither has there been yet discovered, with one exception, any especial reference to them in the civic records. Such must exist, and may possibly ere long be found, but, in the absence of actual evidence, the true identification of the figures must be left for further study and research. Mere theories are of but little service to the true historical enquirer, and the simple repetition of what has been previously written respecting them is only useful in directing attention to the investigation of their history. Dodsley, Lambert, Brayley, Entick, Chamberlain, and Maitland assert that they are intended to represent Queen Elizabeth, Edward VI, and Charles I. In Hatton's "New View of London," 1708, they are said to be Queen Elizabeth, Edward VI, and James I. In Allen's "London" they are called Edward VI, Charles I and his Queen Henrietta Maria; the author of the



latter work, in quoting Strype's edition of Stow's "Survey," even goes so far as to support his own opinion by the observation that "it is singular so many authorities should have copied after him without correcting this mistake, which a moment's glance at the effigy was sufficient to have done."<sup>1</sup> It may be observed that none of the authors to whom I have referred give any reason for assigning these figures to the individuals mentioned, nor any explanation why they were put up in front of the large window of the Chapel at Guildhall. Hatton's statement was published in 1708, at a time when the putting-up of the figures might have been scarcely forgotten, therefore his assertion that one of them is intended as an impersonation of James I would be worthy of consideration but for stronger evidence to the contrary. Since they have been removed to their present position they have been inspected by many of our ablest antiquaries, and at present there appears to be the same differences of opinion as before. Among others who have seen them is G. Scharf, Esq., C.B., F.S.A., Director of the National Portrait Gallery, and no mean authority; he identifies the two male figures as Edward VI and Charles I, and considers that the other may possibly represent Queen Elizabeth, the open neck and long hair being in accordance with representations of that Sovereign, but at the same time the dishevelled tresses and the falling veil under the circlet of the crown may indicate Margaret of Anjou or Elizabeth Woodville, the latter being represented with an aquiline nose. Other opinions have been expressed in favour of Hatton's assertion as to James I; if so, the lady might be his Queen, Anne of Denmark; and, perhaps, the youth, their son Prince Henry. There is, however, no evidence beyond a resemblance between the effigy and the various portraits of Anne which have been recently inspected. By some, the Queen is thought to be Mary II, Queen of William III; the peculiar nose, lips, eyelids and chin, together with the fashion selected in the arrangement of the hair, when compared with the portraits of Mary, is the only support to the opinion, added to the circumstance that William and Mary were favoured in the City and honourably received at Guildhall, in which building their portraits were put up; these were painted by Vander Vaart, and subsequently removed, together with the portraits of George III and Queen Charlotte, in the year 1816, to the Saloon at the Mansion House. There is, however, one thing certain in connection with the opinions which have been expressed from time to time, and that is, that the figure of the Queen cannot be possibly intended for Henrietta Maria any more than could the monarch be intended for William III; there is not the slightest resemblance between the figure and the numerous well-known portraits of the consort of King Charles I. Nichols, in his little work before quoted, naturally refers to these statues; he styles them as "good figures of King Edward VI, Queen Elizabeth with a Phoenix under her, and of Charles I"; and he further remarks that all three are the work of W. Stone, a sculptor. This latter statement is to be found in other histories, but it does not appear what authority exists for the assertion. There was a Nicholas Stone, a celebrated sculptor, in the reign of King James I. He executed a great number of monuments, of which the most important was in memory of the father, mother, brother and sister of Lucy, Countess of Bedford. He was likewise the master mason employed when building the Banqueting House at Whitehall. There were probably but few sculptors who could reflect upon a more active and prosperous career than might Nicholas Stone. As master mason, he had, in addition to his connection with Whitehall,<sup>2</sup> the charge of the repairs and alterations at the Royal

<sup>1</sup> Allen's "History of London," vol. iii, p. 104.

<sup>2</sup> Rymer's "Fœdera," vol. xviii, p. 675.





FROM THE FRONT OF THE GUILDHALL CHAPEL.



Palace at Windsor, and other important buildings. In addition, it appears from his own memoranda, fortunately discovered by Vertue, that many of the tombs and statues in our churches and elsewhere were the work of his hands; for example, the tomb of Sir Thomas Bodley at Oxford, that of Sir Thomas Sutton at the Charterhouse, Spencer's monument at Westminster Abbey, the tomb for the Countess of Buckingham in the same building, and many others. In the year 1625 he writes, "About this time I made for the Old Exchange in London four statues, the one Edward V, Richard III and Henry VII, for these three I had £25 a piece, and one for Queen Elizabeth, which was taken down and sett up again where now it standeth at Guildhall Gate, for which I had £30." This entry is, however, insufficient to prove that the statue assigned to Elizabeth is that mentioned by Stone, for Guildhall Gate is better known as the Porch, and the figure to be identified was not associated with this portion of the building, but the central one of the three situate above the entrance to the Chapel. This eminent sculptor died in the year 1647, aged 61. His son, Nicholas, who likewise followed the profession with success, died in the same year. There was also a Henry Stone, another son of the elder Nicholas; he carried on business as a sculptor, but was better known as a painter, particularly excelling in his copies of Vandyck; he died in the year 1653.<sup>1</sup> It is to be hoped that evidence may yet be discovered as to whether it was a member of this gifted family who sculptured the admirable figure of the Queen now preserved on the stairs leading from the Library to the Museum.

The only reference to be found in the records in connection with the figures is an entry to the effect that in the year 1660 it was ordered by the Court of Common Council "that the late King's statue w<sup>ch</sup> was taken downe at the Guildhall Chappell bee forthwith sett up there againe,"<sup>2</sup> an act which finds corroborative testimony in a short entry preserved in one of the Harleian MSS., and one containing the date when it was reinstated. It reads—"May 7, 1660. King Charles I statue set up at Gildhall." Although the name of the monarch is omitted in the entry in the books of the Corporation, and he is simply referred to as the "late King," it would be Charles that was intended, he having been executed in 1648-9; and the Protectorate continuing from that period to about the time the statue was restored to its position. It appears evident, therefore, that it was removed at the time of the Commonwealth, and not replaced until the restoration of Charles II. With regard to the Queen, if it be Elizabeth, it is difficult rather to explain why she should be associated with Charles I in place of his own consort, Henrietta. If Elizabeth, it is an ideal of the artist, for in no way does it resemble this sovereign either in features or in the costume which she wore. It is true there are the long tresses of hair hanging loosely down the back, a fashion sometimes adopted by Queens at their coronation, and at times by young girls on the occasion of their marriage. The ordinary mode, however, of wearing the hair at this period was almost to conceal it within the peculiar head-dresses then in fashion. We are informed by Leland that Elizabeth of York, Queen of Henry VII, wore her fair, yellow hair hanging down plain behind her back, "with a callé of pipes over it." It is said that Queen Elizabeth, among the many laws she made relative to

<sup>1</sup> See Granger's "Biographical History of England," vol. ii, p. 44 and seq.; also Harl. MS., 5953.

<sup>2</sup> Journal xii, fol. 231.

costume, prohibited the wearing of long hair. In her day false hair was very fashionable, and indeed worn by herself to a great extent. It was Paul Hentzner, the traveller, who, visiting this country in her reign, speaks of the costume of the Queen, and says, "She wore false hair, and that red." There is, however, one circumstance in the History of Guildhall Chapel, that, associated with the Virgin Queen, may account for the presence of an ideal figure, difficult as it is to understand how in so excellent a work of art there should be an utter want of resemblance in every way to the Queen herself. Guildhall College was claimed both by Mary and Elizabeth, for during the reign of the former a certain priest of the College had his annual allowance of £6 stopped "for that there was title made unto the londes of the sayde Colledge to and for the quenes Maiesties use,"<sup>1</sup> and again in the year 1573 it was ordered by the Court of Aldermen that the Lord Keeper should have a copy of the City's Letters Patent touching the purchase of the lands of the Guildhall College.<sup>2</sup> As to the presence of Edward VI, it can be even more readily understood. We have already seen how, at the time of the Dissolution, he assisted the Corporation by enabling it to purchase both the Chapel and its adjoining land. These had been seized into the King's hands "by authority of Parliament" in either the first or second year of his reign, and the Corporation had to conclude by purchase or otherwise with the Protector Somerset and the King's Council for the retaining them.<sup>3</sup> It was, doubtless, at this period that the Protector took the opportunity of availing himself of the treasures of the Library then attached to Guildhall College. It appears that in the year 1817 there was no doubt existing as to the identity of the youthful figure, for we have an entry to the effect that the Right Honourable the Earl of Bridgewater applied to the Corporation for permission to allow Mr. Westmacott to prepare a mould from a statue in front of Guildhall Chapel.<sup>4</sup> The noble Earl wished to erect a statue of the King at Ashridge, where he had been nursed; and, by his asking leave to make a copy of that at Guildhall, we may consider that he looked upon it as the most suitable for the purpose. It has been, therefore, assumed that in the face of existing difficulties, and there are several, that these figures are intended to typify Elizabeth, Edward VI, and Charles I, and that they were placed by the citizens in front of Guildhall Chapel as a recognition of the Royal favour shown to the Corporation in being graciously allowed to purchase or retain its own property.

There is yet another reason for the various misconceptions that have arisen in connection with these figures to which reference may be briefly made. It has been stated that the one attributed to King Charles was removed to its position at the Chapel from the Royal Exchange. There appears to be no evidence for this. The explanation is probably to be found in the circumstance that about the time when they were set up, and doubtless long previously, certain statues of royal and other distinguished personages were placed in the Exchange, some of the more important being the contributions of citizens who, unwilling or unable to assume the responsibilities of office, preferred to meet the customary fine of providing either a portrait or statue in one of the public buildings most suitable for their reception. For example, it appears that in the year 1623, one Richard

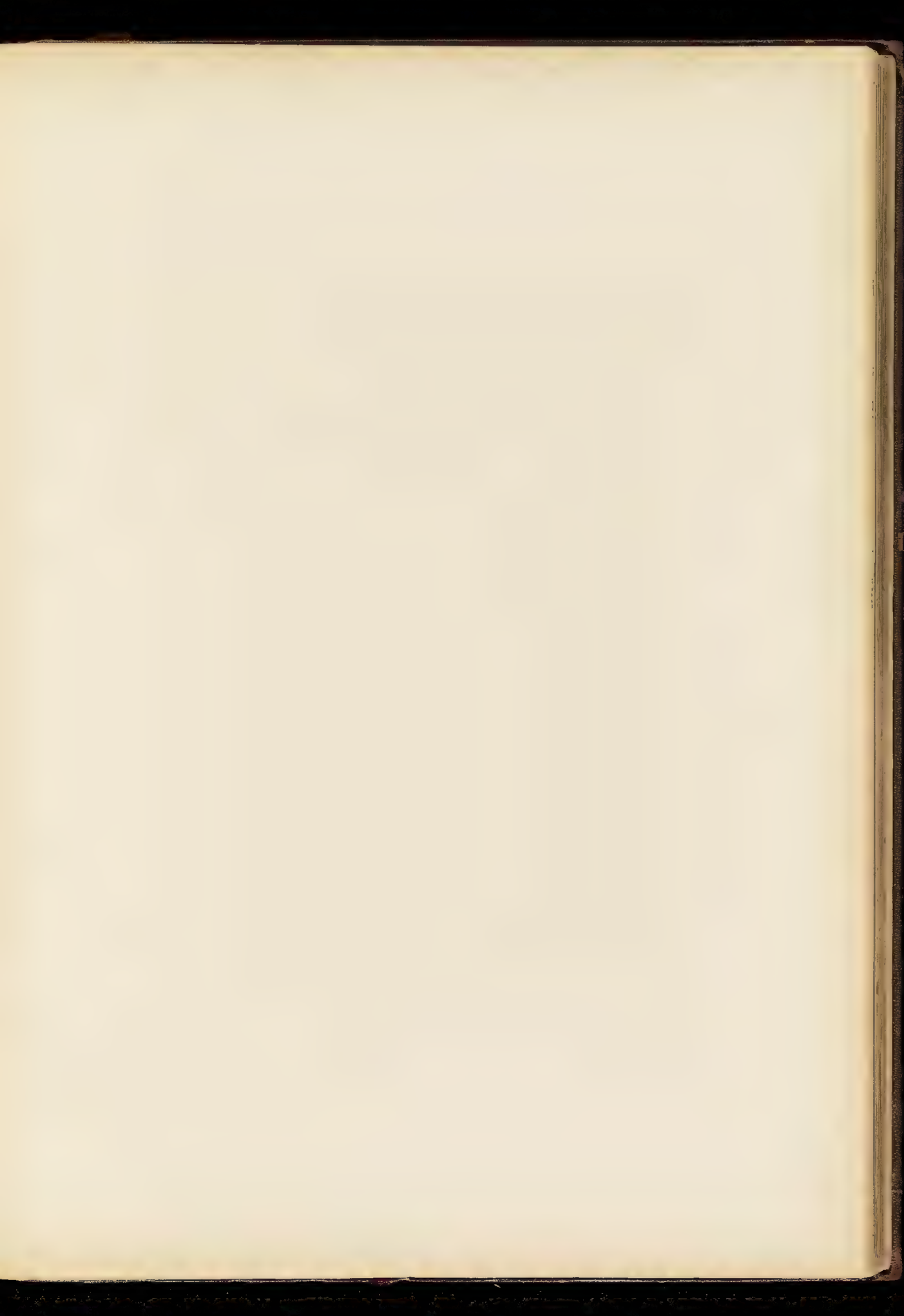
<sup>1</sup> Repertory 13, No. 2, fol. 422.

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 18, 130b.

<sup>3</sup> Journal xv, fol. 370, and Letter Book Q, fol. 244.

<sup>4</sup> Minutes City Lands Committee, 1817, fol. 83.







FROM THE ORIGINAL ENGRAVING IN THE COLLECTION OF J. J. GARDNER, ESQ., F.R.S.

H. Verrill, Photo. 18th

THE STATUE OF EDWARD VI.  
from the front of the Guildhall Chapel.

Cheney, citizen and goldsmith, addressed a letter to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen requesting permission to erect a statue of Edward VI, in accordance with a commission he had received from the Court of Common Council, that a figure of some description should be prepared at his cost and charge. The order bears date 13 March, 1623, 20 James I, and reads as follows:—<sup>1</sup>

"ITEM. —Upon the humble petition of *Richard Cheney*, Citizen and Gouldsmith of *London* and for divers reasons and considerations knowne unto this Court, It is enacted graunted and agreed by the right honorable the Lord Maior, the Aldermen his Brethren, and Commons in this Common Councell assembled, and by th<sup>e</sup> authoritie of the same, that the said *Richard Cheney* shalbee from henceforth for ever discharged and freed from being chosen or eligible to the place and office of Sherivaltie of the cittie of *London* and countie of *Middx*; provided that the said Mr. *Cheney* doth paie to the Chamberlein of this Cittie, to the use of the Maior and Commonaltie and citizens of this Cittie, his Fine for which hee hath heretofore given his bond; and also doe w<sup>th</sup> all convenient speed at his proper costs and charges provide and set upp one Statue of some of the Kings or Queenes of this Realme deceased, in such sorte and place in the royall exchange in this Cittie as the Court of Lord Maior and Aldermen shall nominate direct and appointe otherwise this acte, and the favour hereby meante and intended to the said Mr. *Cheney*, to bee of noe force."

Mr Cheney discharged from the office of Shrivaltie w<sup>th</sup> a provisoe.

We find subsequently that upon the granting of the petition of the aforesaid Richard Cheney, the following entry with reference to the selection which he had made in connection with a figure of Edward VI.

"TO THE RIGHT HO<sup>on</sup>. THE LORD MAIO<sup>r</sup> AND THE RIGHT WOR<sup>th</sup> THE ALDRĒN HIS BRETHREN."

Right Ho<sup>on</sup>. and right wor<sup>th</sup>. Since yo<sup>r</sup> grave Councells upon mature Consideracōn (well weighing my imbecility both psonally & pecuniarily) have beene pleased to afford mee yo<sup>r</sup> wonted favo<sup>r</sup>. I thought it my pticuler duty to acknowledge my thankfullnes ioyntly to this Ho<sup>on</sup>. Court. And sinth by a generall assembly of Coñon Councell (little expecting a secondary Charge) the erecting of a Statue is imposed on mee, pmitt mee onely this favourable request, that it wold please this Ho<sup>on</sup>. Co<sup>rt</sup> to afford mee this priviledge that my Charge may bee disbursed in erecting the Statue of that renowned King Edward the sixt. And that underneath may bee specifiyd at whose Charge it was erected. To this my request (in regard of a former fine) I expect no opposite, neither doubt but as I have ever beene tractable and at the dispose of this Ho<sup>on</sup>. Court, soe you wold bee pleased to afford mee yo<sup>r</sup> generall assents, since my willingnes hath noe way beene refractory to yo<sup>r</sup> designes. Thus with my service humbly tendred I rest

A Life from Mr Cheney to the Lo: Maior &c. concern'g a Statue to bee erected

At yo<sup>r</sup> Hono<sup>r</sup> Service

Without date.

RICHARD CHENEY."

Cheney was probably influenced in the selection made by the fact that statues of both Elizabeth and James had been already put up; for according to the following entry it appears that they had to be repaired at about the time when his petition was agreed to, for it was when this was under consideration by a Committee appointed for the purpose that the members were to advise him as to the setting up of the figure which he had been called upon to contribute. The record is as follows:—<sup>2</sup>

"Decimo die Junii 1623.

"Item this daie it is ordered by this Court that S<sup>r</sup> Edward Barkham, Knight and Aldrān, M<sup>r</sup> Aldrān John Gore, M<sup>r</sup> Aldrān Ham'sleye, M<sup>r</sup> Aldrān Cambell, M<sup>r</sup> Aldrān Raynton, and Sir Humfrey Hanford, Knight & Alderman or any four of them w<sup>th</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Nicholls Leate who by order of the xxvii<sup>th</sup> of Marche last past were appointed to viewe the Statues of King James & the late Quene Elizabeth sett upon the Royall Exchange and to

<sup>1</sup> Journal xxxii, fol. 146b.

<sup>2</sup> "Remembrancia," 6, 21.

<sup>3</sup> Repertory 87, fol. 176b.

Consider in what manner and how<sup>tho</sup> fashion the same shoulde bee amended and bewtified shall forthwith pursue the said Order, and likewise consider and advise w<sup>th</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Cheneye about the setting upp of another stature there, att his owne Cost and charges and consider for the best mannor and fashion of doing thereof. And Certifie this Court in writing under their handes how theye fynde the same, and what theye conceive fitt to bee donne therein."

The practice illustrated by the foregoing extracts originated in the fact that at the time of the death of Sir Thomas Gresham, the Royal Exchange was unfinished, and the thirty rooms provided for by him, and in each of which there was to be a representation of some royal personage, were not complete. A petition was therefore presented asking for an Act to legalise the above arrangement. The following extract from the petition illustrates the nature of the figures as originally contemplated by Sir Thomas. It is not improbable, however, that there may have been sundry deviations in detail as convenience or necessity dictated.<sup>1</sup>

"Wherefore it may please your honour and worships to give way that an act of a common counsell may be made, that because soe worthy a worke may not be left unfynished, it may be enacted that every cittizen that hereafter shalbe elected alderman, and shall agree or compoude to be suspended for a fyne or otherwaies, that before that citizen soe chosen shalbe cleered of all elections hereafter by the cōmon counsell, that he shalbe enjoined to pay the charge of making and fynishing one of the foresaid kings or queenes their pictures, to be erected in the places beforesaid in the Exchange, not exceeding 100 nobles; the pictures to be graven in wood, covered with lead and then gilded and paynted in oyle Cullors; and for modellis or patternes, because this honorable citie and worshipful company of Mercers doe receive good benefitis thereby, that they may make each of them one at their charges, which will be a thing both memorable and honorable, and noe man wronged."

It does not appear in the quaint entries relative to the setting up of these figures, whether stone was not in some cases substituted for wood, but it is highly probable that all were executed by various artists. In addition to those put up by Nicholas Stone, some were the work of John Bushnell, viz., the figures of Charles I and II, likewise that of Sir Thomas Gresham, together with the kings at Temple Bar, &c., but Gabriel Cibber, another famous statuary in practice at this time, was the artist employed in the majority of the royal effigies set up at the Exchange. Evelyn tells us how at the time of the Great Fire of 1666, "Sir Thomas Gressshams statue, tho' fallen from its nitch in the Royal Exchange, remain'd entire, when all those of the kings since the Conquest were broken to pieces."<sup>2</sup>

Lord Mayor.

Leaving this interesting enquiry for future investigation, we proceed to a description of the—now old—Common Council Chamber, Court of Aldermen, the various Committee Rooms, Offices, &c., that are connected with Guildhall. Before, however, entering into a detailed description of the various chambers in which, as years have rolled away, the members have been accustomed to conduct their business, it may be well to devote a brief consideration to the history and constitution of the Corporation itself, combining as it does three highly important elements, viz., the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty. In the earlier portion of this work, attention has been directed to the sources whence the municipal organisation has been derived, tracing its descent, growth and development from laws and institutions introduced into this country while under Roman rule, and the

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 29, fol. 224.

<sup>2</sup> John Evelyn's "Diary," Murray's Edition, 1870, p. 321.



endeavour made to illustrate as far as possible the analogy which exists between the duties imposed upon the civic officials of that time and those discharged by the Chief Magistrate and his colleagues at the present day. The City records, unfortunately, do not extend to a period sufficiently early for us to say definitely when the Mayor, under such a designation, was first invested with an office involving many privileges, but, at the same time, heavy responsibilities. In a Charter granted by King Henry I to the citizens, he gave them liberty to elect "Justiciars" from among themselves to keep the Pleas of the Crown, a name given at this early period to the Magistrate who, in a later Charter granted by Henry, son of King John, is first spoken of as Mayor,<sup>1</sup> the first recorded appointment being that of Henry Fitz Ailwine,<sup>2</sup> of London Stone; he was chosen in the year 1189, 1 Richard I. This respected citizen, for such he must have been, retained the office, being annually re-elected up to the time of his decease. This occurred in the year 1212, he having presided over the destinies of the City for nearly five and twenty years.<sup>3</sup> In the year 1222, during the troublous reign of Henry III, a tumult occurred at Westminster, when Hubert de Burgh, the Chief Justiciary, repaired to the City attended by a strong guard, where he apprehended the principal rioters, and in a most inhuman and arbitrary manner, caused the hands and feet of most of them to be cut off. These unfortunate individuals were allowed no form of trial, and Hubert, as an additional punishment, degraded the Mayor and the Magistrates, and set a "Custos" over the City, and appointed thirty persons of his own choosing to become security for the good behaviour of the citizens of London. Edward I, seizing as he did the Government of the City, appointed a "Custos" in the place of the Mayor for twelve years, and it was not until the 26th year of his reign that the City liberties were restored. Gregory Rokesley was Mayor for part of the year 1285, 14 Edward I, but refusing to render any account of how the peace of the City was maintained, he was suspended from office by the King, and Ralph de Sandwich was appointed "Custos" or "Warden." In the year 1289, 18 Edward I, he was associated with two others in the same capacity, viz., Ralph Barnavers and Sir John le Breton, in the two succeeding years the latter held the office, and again in 1296, 25 Edward I, he being appointed by command of the King's son and his Council, and sworn to preserve the City of London with all its liberties and ancient usages unhurt, and as they had been accustomed, he was to cherish them in all things as "Mayor" in all liberties and usages of the aforesaid City except that he should have the name of "Custos" in place of the name of Mayor until he should be otherwise commanded by the Lord the King, then abiding in parts of Flanders about his war, this was "pronounced to the Aldermen, Sheriffs and six of the better and more discreet men of each Ward."<sup>4</sup>

Some three years later, viz., in 1299, 27 Edward I, the election of the Mayor rested with the Commonalty, for at that time Elias Russell was invested with the office; he was chosen by the Common Council, comprising the Mayor, Aldermen, and the whole Commonalty of the City, duly sworn, and at the same time recognised by the Constable of the Tower of London. In the year 1301, 29 Edward I, Sir John le Blount was elected Mayor by the Commonalty, with the assent of twelve of the most substantial of the citizens belonging to each of the several wards. Sir John le Blount, is spoken

<sup>1</sup> Fifth Charter of King John, dated 9th May, 1215.

<sup>2</sup> "Liber de Antiquis Legibus," fol. 63.

<sup>3</sup> For Pedigree, see Appendix.

<sup>4</sup> Letter Book C, fol. 62b.

of by some authors as "Custos" or Warden, but in the reference here quoted, he is clearly defined as Mayor.<sup>1</sup> In 1320, 14 Edward II, the election and the acceptance of the requisite oath took place in the Guildhall, Nicholas de Farndone chosen, elected, and sworn in the presence of the Aldermen and a large gathering of the Commonalty, the Commons sitting in the Hall, and silence being proclaimed during the election.<sup>2</sup> In the year 1342, 16 Edward III, there occurs an illustration of that which has rarely happened, viz., the death of the Chief Magistrate during his tenure of office. Upon the decease of the Mayor, John de Oxenford, Vintner, Roger de Depham, Alderman and Recorder,<sup>3</sup> immediately commanded, on the part of the King and the Commonalty, the Sheriffs forthwith to summon all the Aldermen together with the best, wisest and richest of the Commoners of the City at the time being, to attend at Guildhall, and elect to themselves a Mayor in the room of the said John de Oxenford, and thereupon the Aldermen and Commoners unanimously elected Simon Francis, Mercer, a wealthy trader in the Old Jewry. His death occurred some eighteen years later, viz., in 1360, he being possessed at the time of no less than twelve rich manors in Middlesex.

Among the various ordinances recorded in the year 1406, 8 Henry IV, is one of especial interest from the association it possesses with the election for the second time of Richard Whittington as Mayor. The incident has been already referred to, but it is worthy of a more lengthened notice inasmuch as it is highly significant of the influence which the religious feeling and sentiments of the time possessed over the manners and customs of the ordinary every day life of the citizens of London. This must have been very great, for we find that even the choice of a Chief Magistrate for the year was deemed to be a matter involving so high a responsibility on all concerned, that the citizens came to the conclusion that not only on the occasion referred to, but at all subsequent elections, none should take place except under the auspices of a religious service. The ordinance as preserved among the archives of the Corporation is to the following effect:—<sup>4</sup>

"On Wednesday, the Feast of the Translation of St. Edward the King and Confessor (13 October), in the 8th year, etc., John Wodecok, Mayor of the City of London, considering that upon the same day he and all the Aldermen of the said city, and as many as possible of the wealthier and more substantial Commoners of the same city, ought to meet at the Guildhall, as the usage is, to elect a new Mayor for the ensuing year, ordered that a Mass of the Holy Spirit should be celebrated, with solemn music, in the Chapel annexed to the said Guildhall; to the end that the same Commonalty, by the grace of the Holy Spirit, might be able peaceably and amicably to nominate two able and proper persons to be Mayor of the said city for the ensuing year, by favour of the clemency of Our Saviour, according to the customs of the said city.

Which Mass having in the said Chapel been solemnly celebrated, there being present thereat the said John Wodecok, the Mayor, John Prestone, Recorder, Nicholas Wotone and Geoffrey Broke, Sheriffs, the Prior of the Holy Trinity, John Hadlee, William Staundone, Richard Whytyngtone, Drew Barentyn, Thomas Knolles, John Shadworth, William Askham, William Brampton, John Warner, William Walderne, William Venour, Robert Chyohely, Thomas Fauconer, Thomas Polle, William Louthe, William Crowmere, Henry Bartone, and Henry Pountiffreyt, Aldermen, and many reputable Commoners of the City aforesaid, the same Mayor, Recorder, Sheriffs, Aldermen, and Commoners, entered the Guildhall, where the precept of the said Mayor and Aldermen, as the cause of the said congregation, was becomingly set forth and declared by the said Recorder to the Commoners aforesaid, to

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book C, fol. 62b.

<sup>3</sup> Letter Book C, fol. 35b. (Elected Recorder in 1339.)

<sup>2</sup> Letter Book D, fol. 6b.

<sup>4</sup> Letter Book I, fol. 54.

the end that such Commoners should nominate unto the said Mayor and Aldermen such able and proper persons as had before filled the office of Sheriff in the City aforesaid; it being for the said Commoners to take no care which of the persons so to be nominated should be chosen by the Mayor and Aldermen to be Mayor for the ensuing year. Which being done, the said Mayor, Recorder, Sheriffs, and Aldermen, went up into the Chamber of the Mayor's Court, within the Guildhall aforesaid, there to await the nomination of such two persons. Whereupon, the Commoners peacefully and amicably, without any clamour or discussion, did becomingly nominate Richard Whytyngtone, mercer, and Drew Barentyn, goldsmith, through John Westone, Common Countor (or Serjeant) of the said City, and presented the same.

And hereupon, the Mayor and Aldermen, with closed door, in the said Chamber chose Richard Whytyngtone aforesaid, by guidance of the Holy Spirit, to be Mayor of the City for the ensuing year; after which the Mayor and Aldermen, coming down from the Chamber into the Hall, to the Commoners there assembled, as the custom is, notified by the Recorder unto the same Commoners, how that, by Divine inspiration, the lot had fallen upon the said Richard Whytyngtone, as above stated.

And further, the said Commoners unanimously entreated the Mayor and Aldermen, that they would ordain that in every future year, on the day of the Translation of St. Edward, a Mass of the Holy Spirit, for the reasons before stated, should be celebrated, before the election of the Mayor, in the Chapel aforesaid. And hereupon the Mayor and Aldermen considering the entreaty of the said Commoners to be fair, reasonable, and consonant with right, and especially to the glory and laud of God, and to the honour of the said City, by assent and consent of the said Commoners, did ordain and decree that every year in future a solemn Mass with music shall be celebrated in presence of the Mayor and Aldermen; the same Mass, by ordinance of the Chamberlain for the time being, to be solemnly chaunted by the finest singers in the Chapel aforesaid, and upon that Feast."

Of the above individuals mentioned as being present at this interesting gathering, one in which it is curious to note that the Prior of the Holy Trinity participated, they all, with few exceptions, were elected to the civic chair. For example, Nicholas Wotton, Mercer, 1415, Member of Parliament for the City, and ancestor of Lord Wotton; Sir John Hadley, Grocer, 1393; Sir William Staundon, or Stondon, Grocer, 1392; Richard Whittington, Mercer, 1397; Sir Drew Barentyn, Goldsmith, 1398, the first Alderman of Farringdon Within after the division of Farringdon into two Wards; Sir Thomas Knolles, Grocer, 1399, ancestor of the Earl of Banbury; Sir John Shadworth, Mercer, 1401; Sir William Askham, Fishmonger, 1403, Member of Parliament, in early life apprenticed to the celebrated Walworth; Sir William Walderne, Mercer, 1412; Sir William Venour, Grocer, 1389; Sir Robert Chichele, Grocer, 1411, brother of Archbishop Chichele, donor of the ground for the Church of St. Stephen's, Walbrook, and a great public benefactor; Sir Thomas Falconer, Mercer, 1414; Sir William Crowmer, Draper, 1413, Member of Parliament, ancestor of Sir James Crowmer, of Tunstall, Kent; Sir Henry Barton, Skinner, of whom we have elsewhere spoken, is the last but one mentioned, he was elected to the office in the year 1416. These had previously served as Sheriffs in accordance with a regulation made in the year 1383, 7 Richard II:—"That no person shall from henceforth be Mayor of the said City if he have not first been Sheriff of the said City, to the end that he may be tried in governance and bounty, before he attains such estate of the mayoralty."<sup>1</sup> Of Henry Pountfreyt, the last of the names recorded, but little appears to be known of him with the exception that he was Sheriff during the mayoralty of Sir William Stondon. Thomas Polle and William Louthe likewise mentioned had been also Sheriffs, the former in the mayoralty of Sir William Askham, the latter in that of Sir John Hende in the following year.

<sup>1</sup> "Liber Albus," book iii, part iv, fol. 241b.



In the year 1453, 32 Henry VI, an ordinance was passed by the Mayor and Aldermen, in response to a petition by the Commonalty, that in future the Mayor should go by barge to Westminster to be presented to the representatives of the Sovereign. At a meeting of the Court of Common Council on the 18th October, 1453, 32 Henry VI, the proposition for such a change was made. The Lord Cardinal, the Chancellor of England, and the Lord Duke of Somerset sent an application by Thomas Belgrave, Sergeant at Arms, to the Mayor and Aldermen to the effect that it was their desire that they should influence the Commonalty of the City to decide "that for the future they should conduct their Mayor to Westminster on horseback as before in past times they had used to do." The application, however, appears to have been altogether disregarded, for the "said Commonalty would by no means consent thereto but that he should be conducted by barges."<sup>1</sup> The change, it would seem, had been already brought about, viz., towards the close of the 15th century, and that the high dignitaries at Westminster were anxious to revert to the old practice, for in addition to other instances, they might have referred to a distinguished precedent in their favour. It was on Lord Mayor's Day, in the year 1415, 4 Henry V, that Sir Nicholas Wotton, in accordance with the rule, was proceeding on horseback to subscribe to the oaths as usual, when the news was brought to him of the glorious victory just won by his countrymen at Agincourt, on the 25th October, four days before—upon his return to the City he forthwith

repaired to St. Paul's, where a thanksgiving service was held and the Te Deum sung. On the following day there was a great procession including the Queen, Johanna of Navarre, second wife of Henry IV, a number of the Nobility, the Clergy, the Mayor, Aldermen and Corporation, all proceeding to Westminster on foot, where a thanksgiving service took place at the Shrine of King Edward, "the Glorious Confessor."

If, however, the old practice of riding to Westminster on the 29th October had fallen into desuetude, it appears to have been revived, for there is a curious and interesting print in the possession of the Corporation—from which the annexed has been copied—that represents Sir Robert Titchborne, Skinner, Mayor in 1657, seated upon his horse and attired in the quaint costume then in fashion. It has been



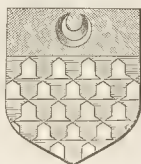
*Exculptus de effigie Anna Dom. 1657. Masefield exco.*  
*Robert Titchborne Mayor*

stated that he was the last of the long line of Mayors who travelled to Westminster in this manner, but this is inaccurate, for it is recorded that Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Knt., proceeded in this way when elected to the mayoralty in the year 1710.

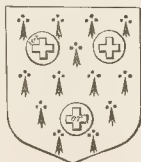
<sup>1</sup> Journal v, fol. 130.



Sir Robert belonged to a Kentish family, whose possessions had been acquired by successfully working the iron foundries, which, in those days, existed both in Kent and Sussex. His career is chiefly remarkable from the active part he took in the contest then raging between Charles I and Parliament. His name appears among the leading Members of the House of Commons, and that his influence was great is evidenced by the fact that he was one of those appointed as a member of the High Court of Justice for the trial of the King, 6th January, 1648. He attended nearly the whole of the sittings, and upon the last occasion his name is to be seen in the list of those who signed the warrant for the execution of the ill-fated monarch. At signs of a Restoration, Sir Robert Titchborne fled abroad, and there awaited the issue of events; called upon, with others, to surrender, on the penalty of losing both life and estate, he returned, and in company with other of the regicides, was committed to the Tower. At the trial he pleaded "Not Guilty," and was more successful in his explanations than many of his comrades, for ten of them suffered death, and although he escaped, the whole of his property was sequestered, and he precluded from again accepting any civic office. His residence was near to Fitches Court, Noble Street, Aldersgate; it was one that escaped the Fire of 1666, when all those adjoining were entirely consumed.<sup>1</sup> The Arms of Titchborne, or Tichborn, are *Vair azure*, on chief *or* a crescent.



Sir Gilbert Heathcote was a man of considerable wealth, his property being valued at his decease at half-a-million. Knighted by Queen Anne, he was created a baronet by George II, the 17th January, 1732-3. He represented the City of London in Parliament from 1700 to 1708. By marriage with Hester, daughter of Christopher Rayner, he had issue, one son, Sir John Heathcote, and two daughters, viz., Anne, the wife of Sir Jacob Jacobson, Knight, and Elizabeth, wife to Sigismund Trafford, Esq., of Dunstan Hall, in the county of Lincoln.



His Arms *ermine*, three pomies *vert*, each charged with a cross *or*.

In the year 1475, 16 Edward IV, another change is recorded in connection with the mayoralty. At a meeting on this occasion of the Court of Common Council, under the presidency of Sir Robert Drope, Draper, Humphrey Starkey, Recorder, &c., &c., it was agreed that no two Aldermen, who were members of the same Company, should be nominated to the office. It was further agreed that the Masters and Wardens of the mysteries of the City, either in their Halls, or other fit and convenient place, should associate with themselves the honest men of their respective mysteries and crafts, and, clad in their last livery, meet together at the Guildhall of the City for the election of Mayor, and in their last livery but one for the election of Sheriffs of the City, and that none other except the good men of the Commonalty be present at the elections aforesaid. It was also determined that no Alderman should on these occasions bring into the Guildhall more than one of his servants to bear his cloak.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "History and Antiquities of the Company of Skinners," by J. F. Wadmore. "Domestic State Papers, Charles II." "State Trials," 1002-1230.

<sup>2</sup> Letter Book L, fol. 113.

In 1523, 15 Henry VIII, an Act was passed by the Court inflicting a fine of £1,000 upon George Monox, Lord-Mayor Elect, for absenting himself from office. It was, on the same occasion, resolved that a similar penalty should be imposed on all who, in future, after their election, declined to assume office.<sup>1</sup> Three years later, viz., in 1546, 38 Henry VIII, the Act was passed, changing the day of election from the 13th October, the Feast-day of King Edward the Confessor, to that of Michaelmas.<sup>2</sup>

We have thus far traced the various orders and regulations which governed the election of the Mayor from the earliest period recorded, down to the second half of the 16th century. There are other changes, and much interesting information concerning them, which might, if space permitted, be here included. As to the social position of the Chief Magistrate during his tenure of office, a few words may be admissible. It has ever been one of dignity and trust; he enjoys honours analogous to those of an Earl, even when in the presence of royalty. The City sword is borne before him as in the case of the Earls of olden time, and not behind. Massinger, the dramatist, refers to this when he recites in the play of the "City Madam,"

"I see Lord Mayor written on his forehead;  
The Cap of Maintenance and City Sword,  
Borne up in State before him."

Attention has been already directed to the privilege conferred upon the citizens of old, of having either a gold or silver mace carried before the Mayor and Aldermen<sup>3</sup> at all public ceremonies, likewise to the older regime as represented, not alone by the mace or sceptre, but by the emblematical sword and dragon; both of these are legacies from classic times. In Amiens, the insignia of supreme justice consisted of two swords of antique form carried in the hands of two officials; a similar custom prevailed throughout the majority of the great corporations in France, and these unquestionably enjoyed a continuity from Roman times.

G. Laurence Gomme, F.S.A., who has devoted a considerable amount of attention to this branch of archæology, quotes in his valuable "Index of Municipal Offices,"<sup>4</sup>—the grant of Henry VII to the City of Chester, permitting the Mayor to have the sword borne before "in our absence, and may cause it to be borne before him with the point upright, in the presence as well as of other nobles and lords of our realm of England who are related to us in lineal consanguinity and others whomsoever, and in any other manner howsoever." At York the Sword Bearer attends the Lord Mayor and Corporation on all State occasions, likewise the Upper House when assembled in Council, and all Corporate meetings for elections and admission of freemen, and to this he affixes the Seal of the Corporation. The Mace Bearer has similar duties to perform, and the officer of the Silver Mace acts as domestic servant to the Lord Mayor on all State occasions. At Exeter, a City in which Municipal institutions are known to have survived from the earliest period

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book N, fol. 247.

<sup>2</sup> Letter Book Q, fol. 182.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 6, and Thompson's "English Municipal History," p. 173.

<sup>4</sup> "Index of Municipal Offices," Index Society, by G. Laurence Gomme, F.S.A., p. 18. Mr. Gomme further discusses the custom of carrying the sword upwards, in the *Antiquary*, vol. i, p. 302, and compares the contentions which took place at London and Chester, when it was sought to abolish this rite.

of its recorded history, similar practices are customary. Exeter is celebrated for the heroic defences it has ever made against rebellious armies and ferocious invaders. The Pretender, Perkin Warbeck, was gallantly repulsed from its walls. In reward for such loyalty and bravery, Henry VII granted a Charter of Immunities, presented his own sword to the Mayor, and gave a *hat or cap of liberty*, to be *worn on all public occasions*. The Mayor and Corporation enter the Cathedral, preceded by the Sword Bearer, *wearing this hat on his head within the Choir*, and does not take it off till he has deposited the sword before the Mayor, close to the throne of the Bishop. In like manner he *wears this hat* in the House of God, in marching in front of the procession, leaving the Cathedral. In our civic processions, the Sword Bearer, with his quaint cap and garb, is but an object of curiosity to the spectators, and one only of the singular group of which he forms a part, but in reality he is far more than this, his office is a distinct appointment, it is of the highest antiquity in the history of the Corporation, and one of no small significance. In addition the Mayor is privileged to officiate as Chief Butler at Coronation Feasts, as did Andrew Bokerel, Mayor in the year 1236, 21 Henry III, at the marriage of that monarch with Eleanor, daughter of the Count of Provence, January 14, and within the present century, when the Lord Mayor John Thomas Thorpe, thus officiated at the Coronation of George IV, July 19, 1821. At such festivals, the Mayor is referred to as "bearing the Mace." Shakespeare alludes to this in his description of the procession on the occasion of the Coronation of Anne Boleyn,<sup>1</sup> his words in the opening scene descriptive of the event would, at the present day, be both applicable and true:—

"Tis well: the citizens,  
I am sure, have shown at full their royal minds—  
*As, let 'em have their rights, they are ever forward—*  
In celebration of this day with shows,  
Pageants and sights of honour."

The order of the procession is subsequently recorded, and here appears the precedence given to the officials of the City. It is all minutely described by Hall in his "Chronicles" of the time, and it is to him that the great dramatist was indebted for his facts. In the programme we find that the Judges, the Lord Chancellor, then Sir Thomas More, are first, but the next in order is the Lord Mayor carrying the City Mace, symbolical of his office. He is succeeded by a train of Marquises, Dukes and other leading members of the aristocracy, each placed according to their rank.

In addition to the Sword and Mace, as emblems of civic power, we have incidentally alluded to the Dragon, this is generally admitted as a symbol of Municipal authority. Mr. Coote<sup>2</sup> has defined it as the national war ensign of England, derived from the flags carried in battle by the respective cohorts of a Roman legion, which, as he says, became a banner cherished by the English in war, "to the latest days of the Anglo-Saxon rule." The association between this mythical creation and our Cross of St. George is well known, but, in addition, may be observed that in the two Griffins, for such they are which guard the City shield, we discern the idea which influenced those who selected them as symbols; the Griffin was in favour with the heralds of old, and was exceptionally appropriate for association with the Corporation. As a fabulous animal, it is represented with the body

<sup>1</sup> "Henry VIII," Act iv, Scene i.

<sup>2</sup> "Romans of Britain," pp. 432-3.

and feet of a lion, the head of an eagle or vulture, and furnished with wings and claws, thus symbolising strength, swiftness, courage, prudence and vigilance—all qualifications singularly appropriate to the Arms adopted by the City.

It has been stated that the titles of Lord and Right Honourable were conferred upon the office in the 14th century, Alderman Thomas Legge, a member of the Skinners' Company, being the first so honoured. He had lent money to Edward III, for the expenses of the war in France, and had also married the daughter of Thomas Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, and thus attained a position of high standing. The honour conferred by the above titles was due to the King, and moreover it was given in that memorable year when Crecy was fought and won. He was subsequently unfortunate, for some thirty years after his mayoralty he suffered at the hands of the partisans of Wat Tyler, by whom he was beheaded on Tower Hill, on the 14th June in the year 1381. He bequeathed £100 for cleansing the City fosses on condition that masses should be offered for the repose of his soul in the Chapel of St. Mary, at Guildhall. His Arms:—*Vert*, a buck's head, *or*, on a Chief, *argent*, three crosses flory, *azure*.



Aldermen.

The next important section of the Corporation is the Court of Aldermen; second only to the Mayor. They are first mentioned in the year 1200, when it is stated that in "this year was elected twenty-five of the most discreet citizens, and sworn to consult for the City together with the Mayor."<sup>1</sup> At this period, they were styled Barons; the name still survives in the inscription preserved upon the Common Seal belonging to the Corporation. In subsequent years they are referred to as Aldermen, and associated with their respective Wards. In the year 1293, 21 Edward I, it was enacted that each Ward should elect its own Alderman. The record appears as follows:—

"The whole commonalty being assembled in the presence of John le Breton, Custos, that is to say from every ward the richer and wiser, the several from each ward severally elected to themselves Aldermen freely of their good will, and with their full consent; and the same Aldermen so elected they presented to the Custos, that all matters which the said Aldermen of their council and discretion with the Custos should make and ordain for the government of the City, and keeping the peace should be firmly observed; and for other provisions touching on the Commonweal of the City, they shall hold stable and firm, without challenge or gainsay; and also each ward shall elect to itself an Alderman, for whom as to his acts, touching the City and state of the same, they will be responsible."<sup>2</sup>

At this time the responsibilities attached to the office were numerous; among others, we find that personal supervision had to be exercised to ensure the safety of the citizens at night. By an ordinance made in the year 1307, 35 Edward I, it was enacted that every Alderman should have three horses for keeping the peace, and that watch should be kept each night by the Aldermen and men of the Wards on horseback.<sup>3</sup> As time went on, it was found in one case, viz., in that of the Ward of Farringdon Within, that the increase of its wealth and population rendered these duties too arduous for one individual to undertake the responsibility, it was therefore decided that "as the Ward of Farringdon Within and Without is so much increased in possessions and inhabitants therein in a few years past whereby the governance thereof is too laborious and too

<sup>1</sup> "De Antiquis Legibus," fol. 63b.

<sup>2</sup> Letter Book C, fol. 6.

<sup>3</sup> Letter Book C, fol. 90b.







J. P. WILSON, 1881

THE ALDERMEN





W. G. G. S. PHOTO-LITH

S COURT ROOM





burdensome for one person to occupy and govern it," &c., &c., it was henceforth to be divided into two Wards,<sup>1</sup> and in 1393 an Act of Parliament was obtained for legalising the election of two Aldermen in place of one as formerly.<sup>2</sup> At this period a new regulation was made with respect to their election. In place of this occurring annually, they were to retain their office until removed therefrom for some reasonable and justifiable cause.<sup>3</sup> Later still we find that no one should be entitled to assume the position unless he was born within the Kingdom, and, moreover, his father must have been an Englishman.<sup>4</sup> This was decided upon in the first year of the reign of Henry V, viz., in 1413; nearly forty years later it was decreed that no one should be admitted as an Alderman unless he had property to the value of £1,000, and in the entry which records the fact it is mentioned that Stephen Fabyan, lately elected, swearing he was not worth such an amount was exonerated from the office.<sup>5</sup> In the reign of Charles I, viz., in 1637, there was an order of the Privy Council to the effect that no Alderman should leave the City without permission of the Mayor and Court of Aldermen, and further that there should be thirteen of the number always within the precincts of the City.<sup>6</sup> In the succeeding reign, viz., on 17th November, 1674, it was decreed that the entire number should come and reside therein.<sup>7</sup>

There appears in past times to have been some stringent regulations as to the costume to be adopted by the Aldermen. In the early part of the reign of Richard II, it had been decided that upon Whit Monday they should be arrayed in cloaks of green, lined with a thin silk of the same colour, and failing to comply, they were subject to such a penalty as might be fixed by the Lord Mayor. There is an instance recorded of an Alderman failing in this respect, and being punished accordingly, but it appears that the fine was one thoroughly English in its character; he was but to invite his brethren to a dinner, and there to appear in the costume which he had previously avoided. The Record is dated 5 Richard II, A.D. 1382:—

"Whereas the Mayor and Aldermen with common assent had agreed that all the Aldermen of London for the dignity of the said City, should be arrayed upon the Feast of Pentecost, in the 5th year, etc., in cloaks of green, lined with green taffeta or *tartaryn*, under a penalty, at the discretion of the Mayor and the other Aldermen so arrayed, to be assessed,——on Monday, the same Feast, when the said Mayor and Aldermen went to the Church of St. Peter on Cornhill, to go in procession from thence through the City, according to the ancient custom, to the Church of St. Paul's, John Sely, the Alderman of Walbrook, appeared then in a Cloak that was single and without a lining, contrary to the Ordinance and assent aforesaid. Whereupon by advice of the Mayor and the Aldermen, it was then adjudged, and assented to, that the said Mayor and other Aldermen should dine with the same John at his house, and that, at the proper costs of the said John, on the Thursday following; and further, the said John was to line his Cloak in manner aforesaid, and so it was done. And this judgment shall extend to all other Aldermen, hereafter to come without sparing any one if any person among them shall act contrary to the Ordinance aforesaid."<sup>8</sup>

A somewhat amusing reference to the dress affected by the Aldermen in the early part of the present century is to be found in the "Autobiography of Frederick Reynolds," a dramatic writer of the closing years of the last century. He describes a visit he once paid to one Major Topham, a dramatic writer of the time, and the conductor of the then popular journal, "The World." "After passing an agreeable fortnight at Cowslip House, we started on a trip to Bury St. Edmunds. Topham's equipage was almost as singular as

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book H, 290b.

<sup>2</sup> Letter Book H, 291.

<sup>3</sup> Letter Book L, fol. 64b.

<sup>4</sup> Journal xlviii, fol. 90b.

<sup>5</sup> Letter Book H, 291.

<sup>6</sup> Letter Book I, fol. 126.

<sup>7</sup> Repertory 51, fol. 251b.

<sup>8</sup> Letter Book H, fol. 146. Norman French.

his dress. He drove a currie (constructed after a plan of his own) with four black horses splendidly caprisoned, and followed by two grooms in conspicuous liveries. His dress consisted of a short scarlet coat, with large cut steel buttons, a very short white waistcoat, top boots and leather breeches, so long in their upper quarters as almost to reach to his chin. In order that the peculiarities of this dress should be duly appreciated, it must be remembered that, at that time, every other person wore very long coats, and breeches so very short, that half the day and one whole hand were entirely employed in raising them *en derrier* to avoid any awkward declension *en avant*. I have seen many of the Court of Aldermen enter Guildhall in this manner, that every body in consideration of its convenience, defying its singularity, adopted Topham's costume, thus he had the *éclat* of introducing the present male fashion which in comparison with the last is not only useful but ornamental."<sup>1</sup>

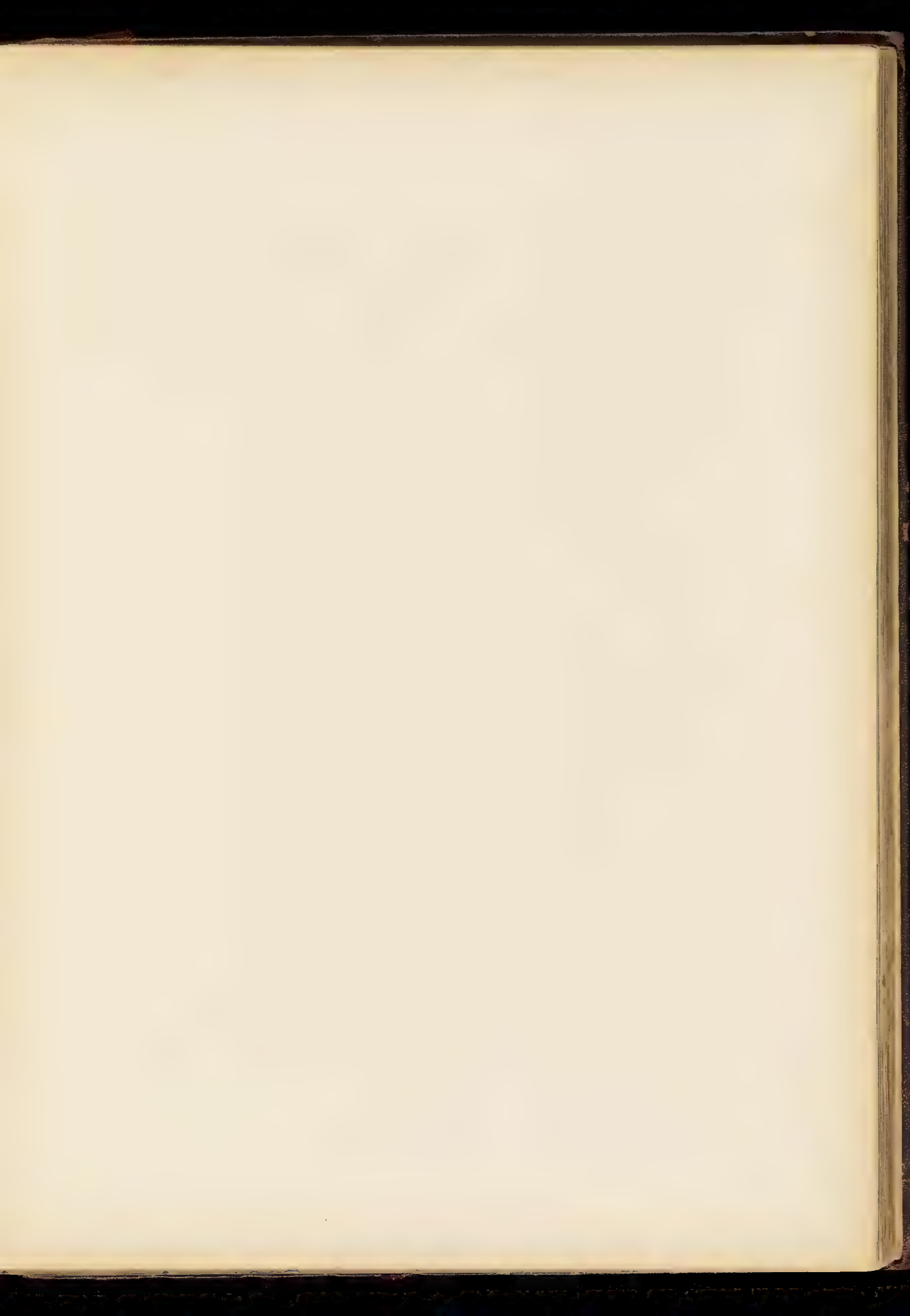
Aldermen's  
Court.

The Aldermen's Court Room is a noble apartment, and possesses an additional interest at the present time, inasmuch as it is shortly to be removed in accordance with the plans recently decided upon for alterations and improvements. Its most attractive feature is the decorated ceiling of which we are enabled to give an effective illustration. In the centre will be noticed a well-finished painting enclosed within an oval. This is the work of Sir James Thornhill, and is intended to typify the old traditions of the City. The seated figure is to represent London; she wears a mural crown, and in her left hand grasps the civic shield. The figure behind is intended for Pallas, the daughter of Jupiter, and beneath her two little boys, one bears upon his shoulder the City Sword, the other is pointing to the Cap of Maintenance and the Mace that lies beneath her feet. There is an allegorical figure of Peace, who is represented as presenting an olive branch, and another illustration of Plenty pouring out riches from her horn. There are two oblong compartments at each end of the ceiling, they contain youthful figures representative of the cardinal virtues Prudence, Temperance, Justice, and Fortitude. The borderings round the various designs are rich and tasteful, and are embellished with animals and foliage. The chimney-piece, is constructed of black marble. Above it is a painting given to the Corporation by Sir James Thornhill.<sup>2</sup> It appears like metal, and is painted in Chiaro-scuro. The typical figures selected are London, Justice, Liberty, Piety, Truth, &c. At the lower end of the chamber—viz., the east end—appears the motto *AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM*, one most appropriate when the purposes to which the apartment has been devoted are considered. Around the margin of the ceiling there are affixed above the cornice twenty-eight shields of Arms of past Lord Mayors. Their names are all given in the illustration.

In the two windows above the Mayor's chair are also Coats of Arms painted on glass; they are those of Aldermen, viz., Robert Waithman, 1823; John Garratt, 1824; William Venables, 1825; Anthony Brown, 1826; Matthias Prime Lucas, 1827; William Thompson, 1828; John Crowder, 1829; Sir John Key, Bart., 1830-1; Sir Peter Laurie, 1832; Charles Farebrother, 1833; Henry Winchester, 1834; W. Taylor Copeland, 1835; Thomas Kelly, 1836; Sir John Cowan, Bart., 1837; Samuel Wilson, 1838; Sir Chapman Marshall, 1839. The other windows contain the Arms of Thomas Johnson, 1840;

<sup>1</sup> "Reynolds' Life and Times," 1828, written by himself, vol. ii, p. 38.

<sup>2</sup> The original design is preserved in the Library of the Corporation.







SIR MATTHEW WOOD, BART. M.P., 1815, 1816.

SIR WILLIAM COMVILLE, BART., 1813.

SIR CLAUDIUS STEPHEN HUNTER BART. 1811.

THOMAS SMITH, ESQ., 1808.

SIR WILLIAM LEIGHTON RT. HON.

THE CEILING OF THE  
Painted by





ALDERMEN'S COURT ROOM  
 by James Thornhill



Sir John Pirie, Bart., 1841; John Humphrey, 1842; Sir William Magnay, Bart., 1843; Michael Gibbs, 1844; John Johnson, 1845; Sir George Carroll, 1846; J. Kinnersley Hooper, 1847; Sir James Duke, Bart., 1848; Thomas Farncomb, 1849; Sir John Musgrove, Bart., 1850; William Hunter, 1851; Thomas Challis, 1852; Thomas Sidney, 1853; Sir Francis G. Moon, Bart., 1854; Sir David Salomons, Bart., 1855; T. Qvested Finnis, 1856; Sir Robert W. Carden, 1857; David William Wire, 1858; John Carter, 1859; William Cubitt, 1860-1; Sir W. Anderson Rose, 1862; William Lawrence, 1863; Warren S. Hale, 1864; Sir Benjamin Samuel Phillips, 1865; Sir Thomas Gabriel, Bart., 1866; Wm. Ferneley Allen, 1867; Sir James Clarke Lawrence, Bart., 1868; Robert Besley, 1869; Sir Thomas Dakin, 1870; Sir Sills J. Gibbons, Bart., 1871; Sir Sydney H. Waterlow, Bart., 1872; Sir Andrew Lusk, Bart., 1873. On either side the entrance at the lower end of the Chamber are six panels, each containing a Coat of Arms carved in wood; one alone remains unappropriated, and in this, presuming the Chamber to have remained in use, there would have been inserted the Arms of the present respected Lord Mayor. His eleven predecessors in this distinguished office are, D. H. Stone, 1874; W. J. R. Cotton, 1875; Sir Thomas White, 1876; Sir T. S. Owden, 1877; Sir Charles Whetham, 1878; Sir Francis W. Truscott, 1879; Sir William McArthur, 1880; Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., 1881; Sir H. Edmund Knight, 1882; Sir Robert Nicholas Fowler, M.P., 1883; G. S. Nottage, 1884.

The third and a highly important section of the Corporation is the Commonalty or Court of Common Council. This comprises the representative body of the citizens, and it is one whose constitution has never from the first day of its establishment been changed. Upon the division of the City into Wards, each Ward was presided over by an Alderman, who was assisted in the duties and responsibilities of his office by a certain number of substantial citizens chosen for the purpose by the inhabitants of his particular Ward; the number elected being in accordance with the population resident therein. In the year 1383,<sup>1</sup> 7 Richard II, there were 96 members in all; but the numbers were, in some cases, six, in others four, and in a few instances only two individuals were returned as representatives of their Wards, the average, however, being four to each of the then twenty-four Wards.<sup>2</sup> A century previous there were less than half that number. In the year 1273, 1 Edward I, it was but forty. An entry in the records gives the names of the Aldermen and Commonalty of the twenty-four Wards, under the heading "The names of divers men elected to consult with the Aldermen on the affairs of the City."<sup>3</sup>

Common  
Council.

Nomina propria Wardarum Civitatis Lond et nomina Alder-				Nomina proborum hominum Juratorum omnium	
mannorum ... ..				Wardarum ad consulendum cum Alder-	
				mannis in Communibus negotiis Civitatis	
				Lond.	
Warda Fori...	...	Stephanus Aswy ...	...	{ Elias de Honilane, Henricus le Coffrer.	
				{ Johannes le Coffrer + Radulphus le Mazeliner.	
Warda de Lodgate et Nengate	Willelmus de Farndon ...		...	{ Henricus Belhus, Robertus le Paumer.	
				{ Johannes de Cestrehunte.	
Warda Castri Beynard ...	Ricardus Aswy ...	...	...	{ Gilbertus de Dunton, Ricardus Poterel.	
Warda de Aldreidesgate ...	Willelmus le Mazener ...	...	...	{ Ricardus Aswy, Henricus de Keyley.	
Warda de Bredstrate ...	Anketinus de Betevile ...	...	...	{ Fank le Taverner, Willelmus de Beverlaco.	
Warda de Ripa regine ...	Simon de Hadestok ...	...	...	{ Radulphus de Brumle, Robertus de Chalfaunte.	

<sup>1</sup> Report to the Common Council, 6 March, 1884.

<sup>2</sup> "Liber Albus," Riley's Translation, p. 399.

<sup>3</sup> Letter Book A, fol. 116.



Warda, Vinetrie ... ..	Johannes de Gisors ... ..	Henricus de Herford, Johannes dictus Clericus.
Warda de Donegate ... ..	Gregorius de Rokesle ... ..	Petrus Cosin, Robertus de Preston.
Warda de Walebrock ... ..	Thomas Box ... ..	Thomas Box, Fulco de Sancto Edmundo.
Warda de Colemanestrade ... ..	Johannes filius Petri ... ..	Willelmus Gratefige, Tristram le Cheverell.
Warda de Bassieshawe ... ..	Radulphus le Blound ... ..	Ricardus de Caumpes, Willelmus Heyrum.
Warda de Crepelgate ... ..	Henricus de Frowick ... ..	Walterus de Finchingfeud, Thomas de Stanes.
Warda de Candlewysstrate ... ..	Robertus de Basinge ... ..	Mattheus le Chaundiler, Robertus le Surgein.
Warda de Langeford ... ..	Nicholaus de Wintonia ... ..	Willelmus de Kelwedon, Johannes le Potter.
Warda de Cordewanestrade ... ..	Henricus le Waleys ... ..	Hugo Motuu, Osbertus de Suffolchia.
Warda de Cornhull. ... ..	Martinus Box ... ..	Johannes Skip, Radulphus de Berkingge.
Warda de Limestrate ... ..	Robertus de Rokesle ... ..	Thomas le Conver, Ricardus le Paumer.
Warda de Bissopesgate ... ..	Philippus le Taylur ... ..	Henricus le Bole, Galfridus de Hundesdichs.
Warda de Alegate ... ..	Johannes de Northampton ... ..	Laurentius le Potter.
Warda de Turre ... ..	Willelmus de Hadestok ... ..	Martinus Lupus, Benedictus de Hakenee.
Warda de Billingsgate ... ..	Wolmarus de Essex ... ..	Thomas Cros, Johannes Baudri.
Warda Pontis ... ..	Jocens le Achatur ... ..	Ricardus Knotte, Edmundus Horn.
Warda de Lodingeberi ... ..	Robertus de Arras ... ..	Walterus Hautein, Nicholaus de Hedresete.
Porsoken ... ..	Prior Sancte Trinitatis de Alegate ... ..	Edmundus Trentemars.

In the year 1317 this number was increased to fifty-seven;<sup>1</sup> but on account of the increase in population, and the development of trade and commerce, it became necessary to further augment the number. The representatives of the then twenty-five Wards became as many as 133. The list is given in detail in the records, and as it is the first recognised "Court of Common Council" of which we have an accurate description with all the names of its members, together with an enumeration of their Wards, it may be interesting if the entry be transcribed in full. It reads:—

At a congregation of the Mayor, Aldermen, and an immense number of the Commonalty, on Wednesday in the first week of Lent, in the twenty-first year of the reign of King Edward after the Conquest the Third, in presence of Geoffrey de Wychinghan, Mayor, Sir John de Pulteneye, Reynald de Conduit, Henry Darci, Andrew Aubrey, John Hamond, Richard Lacer, Roger de Depham, John Syward, Thomas Leggy, Walter Turke, John de Caustone, and Adam Brabazon, Aldermen, the persons underwritten, were chosen in their respective wards to come to the Guildhall of London, when they should be warned thereto, to treat of business touching the City; namely from the Ward of:—

## TOWER—6.

Henry Wymond.  
William Box.  
Laurence de Braghlynge.  
Ralph de Halstede.  
Thomas atte Vyne.  
John Anketill.

## BILLYNGESGATE—6.

Richard de Lambethe.  
Adam Pykeman.  
Richard Double.  
John Youn.  
Robert Pykeman.  
Henry Sterre.

## - BRIDGE—6.

Nicholas atte Gate.  
John de Hatfield.  
Roger Knowille.  
Geoffrey Fayrher.  
Richard Bacoun.  
Stephen Lucas.

## LANGE BURN—6.

John de Bromholme.  
William Palmere.  
Geoffrey de Everdone.  
John de Hablond.  
Robert de Stratforde.  
Thomas Bonde.

The above being to the east of Walbroke.

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book F, fol. 136b.



CANDELWYKESTRETE—6.

Thomas de Wynkone.  
Thomas Broun.  
Thomas Parker.  
William Knight.  
John de Werlee.  
John Lemman.

WALBROKE—6.

John de Bedeforde.  
Nicholas Hotot.  
Adam de Bury.  
John le Nene.  
Richard de Carleton.  
Walter Page.

LYMSTRETE—2.

Godfrey atte Swan.  
Thomas de Alkefolde.

DOUEGATE—6.

Thomas d'Espaigne.  
Richard de Wycombe.  
William de Wirestre.  
James Andren.  
Thomas Potyn.  
William Swifte.

PORTSOKNE—6.

Peter de Westone.  
John de Romeneye.  
Alexander Cobbe.  
Alexander Mareschal.  
John le Longe.  
Thomas de Caxtone.

VINETRIE—5.

Henry Fannere.  
John Cressingham.  
Walter Benet.  
Henry Palmere.  
Thomas Sharnebroke.

QUEEN HYTHE—6.

Richard Smelt.  
Robert Hornere.  
William de Bernes.  
William Vere.  
William de Neuport.  
William de Fulham.

CASTLE BAYNARD—5.

John Tornegold.  
Henry Brenge.

The above being to the west of Walbroke.

ALEGATE—6.

John de Neubery.  
Walter Costautyn.  
Simon Caperoun.  
Robert Andren.  
Stephen atte Conduit.  
William Danzel.

BISSHOPESGATE—6.

John Pyoot.  
Henry de Norhamptone.  
Alan Osegodeby.  
Nicholas Segrave.  
Thomas le Barber.  
Geoffrey Sergeant.

CORNHULLE—6.

Robert Manhale.  
John de Brendewod.  
Ralph Cantebrede.  
Stephen atte Holte.  
John Levelife.  
Richard de Claveringe.

BRADESTRETE—5.

Richard de Staundone.  
John Herewartestoke.  
Thomas Lyons.  
William le Hore.  
Adam Aspal.

The above being to the east of Walbroke.

John Lumbard.  
Thomas de Cornwall.  
John Burre.

CHEPE—6.

Thomas de Waldene.  
Roger de Caumpes.  
John Blamche.  
John Pecche.  
Henry atte Roche.  
John Russell.

COLMANSTRETE—6.

John de Hatfield.  
John Deynes.  
Henry de Ware.  
John de Berkynge.  
Richard de Shorediche.  
William atte Welde.

## CORDWANERSTRETE—6.

John de Abyndone.  
 William de Hanhampstede.  
 Adam Fraunceys.  
 John Bole, Pelterer.  
 Giles Spenser.  
 John Berkyng, the younger.

## BREDSTRETE—4.

John de Tyffeld.  
 Gilbert Palmere.  
 John de Kyngestone.  
 Nicholas Madefrey.

## BASSIESHAWE—6.

John de Dallynge.  
 Roger Madour.  
 William de Todenham.  
 Roger Pycot.  
 Henry Cotiller.  
 Roger Latoner.

## FARNDONE—6.

Robert de Shorediche, the elder.  
 Robert de Wyke.  
 William Blithe.  
 Andrew de Seccheforde.  
 Reynald de Thorpe.  
 Robert de Asshe.

## CREPELGATE—6.

Richard Goldbetere.  
 John de Hyngestone.  
 Simon de Worstede.  
 William Payn.  
 Adam Walpol.  
 William le Chaloner.

## ALDREGATE—4.

William de Rameseye.  
 John de Thame.  
 John atte Barnet.  
 Thomas de Grauntbrege.

The above being to the west of Walbroke.

In the year 1354 a certain hour of meeting was fixed for the assembling of the Court. The following extract is of interest, as showing how early in the day the citizens of old were accustomed to commence their business, and if they omitted to attend to their official duties they were amerced in a monetary fine.

"At a meeting of the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs, and an immense Commonalty, on Saturday next after the Feast of St. Dunstan there were present, the Mayor Adam Fraunceys, nineteen Aldermen, and the wiser and more wealthy of all the Wards of the City. It was ordained and agreed that henceforward when the Aldermen and other citizens of the City of London shall be summoned to be at the Guildhall of London for ardnous affairs touching the Commonalty of the said City and shall not come there by the first hour struck at Saint Paul's they shall be amerced at two shillings to the use of the Commonalty of London."<sup>1</sup>

It would seem, moreover, that, in addition to the regulations as to a strict attendance, it became necessary to impress upon the members of the Court that all proceedings involving the interests of the City should be kept secret, for there is an ordinance dated 27th May, 1428, 6 Henry VI, to the following effect:—

"Agreed by the Commonalty, that if anyone summoned and being in the Common Council shall tell any of the secrets spoken or done in the same to the damage of the Commonalty or any person soever that he shall lose his Freedom and pay to the Chamber £20."<sup>2</sup>

As time went on, and the City became extended in every direction, and with a constantly increasing population, the number of members returned was gradually augmented, and at some periods they were chosen with a regard rather to the trade they represented than to the Ward to which they belonged. In the year 1639 the number of members elected for Farringdon Without was as many as sixteen.<sup>3</sup> In 1642-3 the

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book G, fol. 19.

<sup>2</sup> Journal xxxix, fol. 36b.

<sup>3</sup> Journal, ii, fol. 101b.

number for the Ward of Aldersgate was increased from six to eight.<sup>1</sup> In 1654<sup>2</sup> the representatives of the Ward of Cheap were fixed at twelve, and in the year 1840 we arrive at the present number—a striking contrast to the first-mentioned list, viz., *two hundred and six*.

Above the old Council Chamber were inscribed the following words :—

Council  
Chamber.

“Carolus Henricus vivat Defensor uterque,  
Henricus Fidei, Carolus Ecclesiae.”

Long Prosperity	}	The one of the Faith
To Charles and Henry		The other of the Church
Princes most puissant.		Chosen Defendant.

This was Charles V, Emperor of Germany and King of Spain, and according to Granger,<sup>3</sup> a great politician at sixteen years of age. He came to England twice in this reign to visit King Henry VIII, to whom he paid his court as the arbiter of Europe, as Henry then held the balance between him and Francis I of France. In the latter part of his life, he resigned his kingdoms to his brother and his son and retired into a monastery. He was thought to have been very strongly inclined to the religion which he persecuted.<sup>4</sup> He died 21st September, 1558. A few days before his death, he commanded his funeral procession to pass before him in the same order as it did after his decease. He obtained the title which he had enjoyed by publishing a writ of outlawry against Martin Luther, as King Henry did the other for writing a book against him.

It does not appear that there is any record extant of a particular chamber being set apart for the deliberation of this assembly earlier than that recorded by Stow.<sup>5</sup> Speaking of Guildhall, and the foundations of the Mayor's Court as being laid in the reign of Henry VI, he says : “Then was built the Mayor's Chamber and the Council Chamber, with other rooms above the stairs.” This would be in the year A.D. 1424, and although we have mention of the Court dating nearly a century earlier, this appears to be the first entry which gives a distinctive name to the place of meeting for its members.

Some two hundred years later, there is an account of the construction of a new chamber with a handsome room above it, for the preservation of the books and records belonging to the Corporation. This was commenced, it is said, in the first week after Easter, in the mayoralty of Sir Thomas Middleton, A.D. 1614 ; but this statement, running as it does throughout the histories of London, is not quite borne out by the records. The inaccuracies are probably due to previous writers all quoting each other and taking Stow as the usual authority. In his “Chronicles” he writes, under the year 1614, “At this time was new builded the faire Councell Chamber for the Lord Maior and Aldermen of London, the former Councell Chamber being too little and inconvenient, caused them to build this. It standeth at the North end of their old Councell Chamber. Sir Thomas Middleton was now

<sup>1</sup> Journal xi\*, fol. 47.

<sup>2</sup> Journal xli\*, fol. 113.

<sup>3</sup> Granger's “Biographical History of England,” vol. i, p. 120.

<sup>4</sup> It is said that about 200,000 men were killed on account of religion in the reign of this prince.

<sup>5</sup> Stow's “London,” p. 102.

Lord Maior, who much furthered the work." Mr. Nichols in his short reference to the building, remarks that its erection was commenced in the first week after Easter in the year mentioned, and that it was completed shortly after Michaelmas in the following year, at the close of the mayoralty of Sir Thomas Hayes, Alderman; but the Lord Mayor, he continues, and the Aldermen his brethren, kept their first court in the said new Council Chamber, on the 7th day of November, in the year of our Lord, 1615. Sir John Jolles, Alderman, being then Lord Mayor, by whose order and direction the said building was performed, from the first beginning thereof to the final finishing of the same, amounting to the charge of £1,740. It appears, however, from the records that the erection of the new building was contemplated some nine or ten years previously, and that there were other distinguished citizens in addition to those above mentioned who were associated with it. The first reference appears to be the appointment of a committee during the mayoralty of Sir Thomas Lowe, in the year 1605, for the purpose of selecting a convenient site for the new building. The entry is dated 15th October, 1605:—

"ITEM.—It is ordered that Sir Henry Billingesley, Sir William Ryder, Sir John Garrard, Sir Thomas Bennett, Sir Thomas Cambell, Sir William Romney, Sir John Swynnerton, Knights and Mr. Sword-bearer to attend them calling unto them the Cityes Workmen and such others as they shall think fitt shall consider of a convenient place to be had for erection of a faire Councell Chamber, for the Lord Maior and his bretheren the Aldermen, and the learned Councell and officers of this Cityte to meet in; and for the enlargement of the Thresorye for keeping the Citytes Chifes and Records, within the Carpenters yard on the north syde of their Councell Chamber, and to make report to this Court of their opinions therein, and Thomas Harvest to warne them."<sup>1</sup>

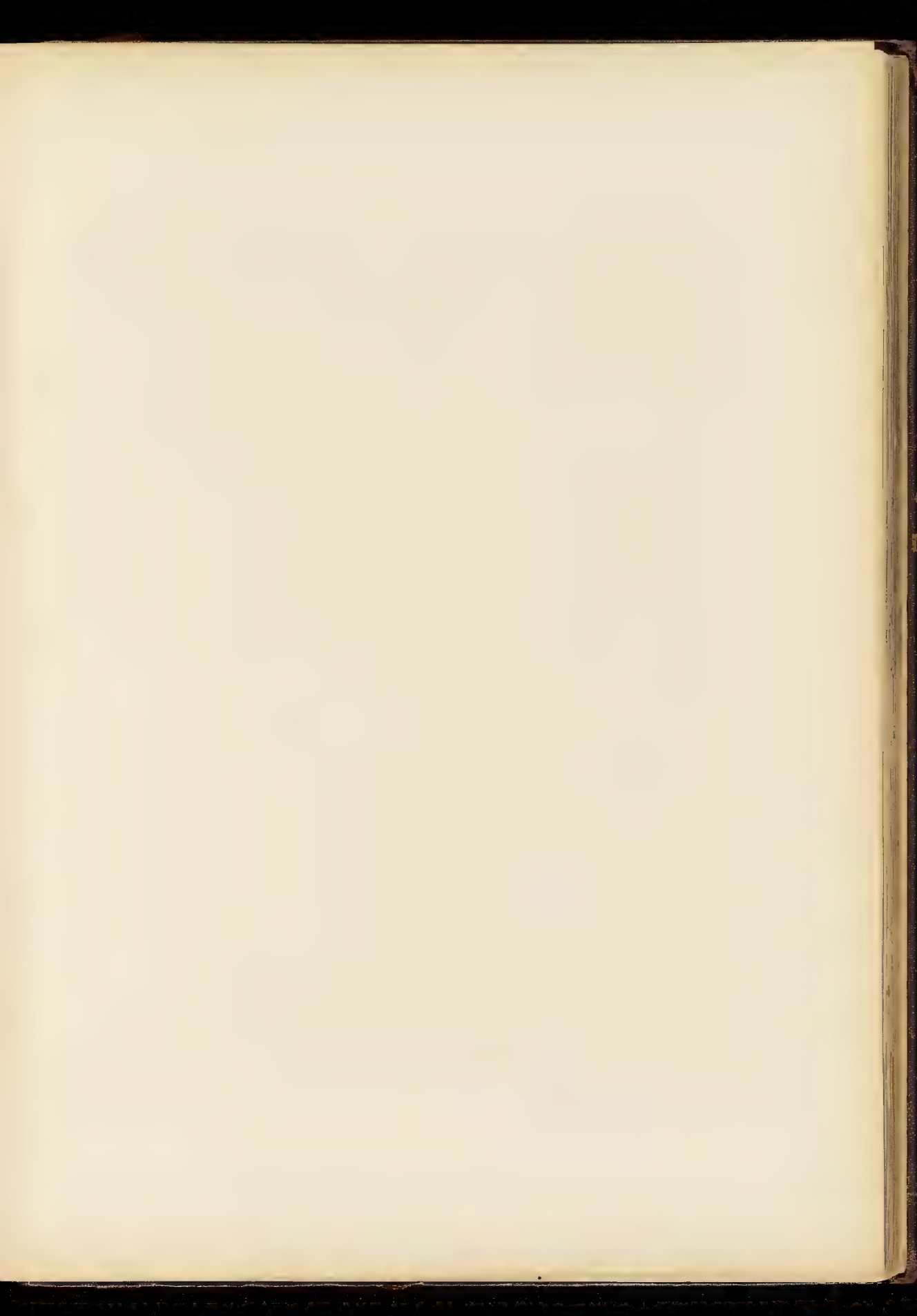
There appears, however, to have been something like four or five years interval between the above order and the commencement of the work; for at the beginning of the year 1611, a discussion arose as to the material of which it was to be constructed. On the 11th February of this year, in the mayoralty of Sir James Pemberton, a decision is recorded that the new building should be of free-stone, and to be commenced as quickly as possible. A few days later, an alteration was decided upon both on the ground of expense and a desire to have the building commenced forthwith. It appears from the entries that it was to be of brick and the windows only of stone, and it would seem that it was commenced about this time inasmuch as on the 23rd October, 1613, at a special meeting of the Court a payment of £200 is authorised for the preparation of the stone. In the following year, Sir Thomas Middleton was Mayor, and it is then that he became connected with the work, for example, on the 27th September, 1614, it is decided that the roof shall be of lead, and at a subsequent meeting, viz., on the 27th October, 1614, there is an order to the effect that his Coat of Arms shall be set up in a place of honour inasmuch as the building had been erected during his year of office.

The Middleton family resided in the City for nearly a century, its members had formed their home within its precincts, their connections more particularly being with the Parish of St. Matthew, Friday Street. The registers of the Church contain numerous references to the family, the last briefly announcing the burial of its renowned Sir Hugh, in the following words, "1631, X<sup>br</sup> 10, S<sup>r</sup> Hugh Middleton, Knight."

Six years later, the members of the Common Council appreciating their new home, decided upon an additional room, and likewise to convert a carpenter's yard and another

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 27, fol. 96.







COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBER, GUILDHALL.

*Engraved by J. H. P. for the Trustees of the Society of Antiquaries, London.*

yard close by into a garden which should be within sight of their place of meeting, and be made accessible by a special entrance leading from the inner room or rooms then about to be constructed. With the many changes brought about by the ravages of the Fire of 1666, and the requirements for the extensive range of buildings subsequently erected, it is difficult for us, after an interval of two hundred years, to form any idea of how pleasantly situated and convenient must have been this old Council Chamber in the very heart of a city doomed to almost total destruction some fifty years later. The following are the respective entries in chronological sequence as they appear in the archives of the Corporation :—

PEMBERTON, Mayor

11<sup>th</sup> February 1611.

Item upon consideraçon had this day whether it were more fitt that the nowe (*sic*) Counsell Chamber should be built w<sup>th</sup> brick or free-stone; It is w<sup>th</sup> a gen<sup>l</sup>l consent agreed, that the same shalbe don w<sup>th</sup> the best free-stone; And the building to begin w<sup>th</sup> all possible speed that can be.<sup>1</sup>

The Counsell Chamber to be built with free-stone.

PEMBERTON, Mayor.

22<sup>nd</sup> February 1611.

Item it is w<sup>th</sup> a general consent ordered and agreed (for-as-much as building w<sup>th</sup> brick wilbe finished in a farr shorter time, and w<sup>th</sup> much lesse charge then w<sup>th</sup> free-stone) that the newe Counsell Chamber shalbe built w<sup>th</sup> brick well burned, and the windowes to be onely of free-stone; Any former Order to the contrary notwithstanding; And that the building be presently taken in hand and finished w<sup>th</sup> all possible speed that can be.<sup>2</sup>

The Counsell Chamber to be built with brick.

#### SPECIAL COURT.

SWYNARTON, Mayor

28<sup>th</sup> October 1613.

Item it is ordered by this Court that Mr. Chamblen shall pay and disburse unto Sir John Jolles Knight and Alderman the some of CC.£. to be by them expended towards the preparing of free stone for the erecting and beautifying of A new Councell Chamber and bookhouse, And this shalbe his warrant for payment thereof, And M<sup>r</sup> Alderman Leman, M<sup>r</sup> Alderman Harvey, M<sup>r</sup> Alderman Cokayne and M<sup>r</sup> Alderman Smythes, are by this Court entreated to joyne with S<sup>r</sup> John Jolles in the premises and to give him their assistance therein, and Symon Marshal to warne and attend them.<sup>3</sup>

S<sup>r</sup> John Jolles, cc<sup>t</sup>

MIDDLETON, Mayor.

20<sup>th</sup> September 1614.

Item is ordered by this Court that the roofo of the new Councell Chamber shallbe all leaded.<sup>4</sup>

Councell Chamber to be leaded.

27 October 1614.

Item it is thought meete and soe ordered by this Court that the Armes of S<sup>r</sup> Thomas Middleton Knight now Lord Maior shalbe sett in the cheifest and uppermost place in the new Councell Chamber in respect the same is erected in the tyme of his Lordshipsps maioraltye next to whose Armes on the right side the Armes of S<sup>r</sup> Henry Mountagu Knight Recorder of this City is to be placed in respect that the Recorders place in the Councell Chamber is next to the Lord Maior on the right hand And then that the Armes of the Knights and Aldermen be also sett according to their precedenye.<sup>5</sup>

JONES, Mayor.

20<sup>th</sup> January 1620.

Item this day this Court tooke into their consideraçon the want of an Inner Roome out of the newe Councell Chamber and how gracefull and delightfull it would bee to have the Carpenters yarde and the yarde next beyond that being in sight of the Councell Chamber converted into a garden. And thereuppon thought it verie fitt and soe

Citries Councell Chamber.

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 30, fol. 273b.

<sup>2</sup> Idem, 31, part i, fol. 197b.

<sup>3</sup> Idem, 31, part ii, fol. 439b.

<sup>4</sup> Repertory 30, fol. 279b.

<sup>5</sup> Idem, 31, part ii, fol. 408.

ordered that M<sup>r</sup> Alderman Barkham, M<sup>r</sup> Alderman Probye, M<sup>r</sup> Alderman Halliday, M<sup>r</sup> Alderman Hamersley, M<sup>r</sup> Com<sup>on</sup> Seriaunt and M<sup>r</sup> Nicholas Leate, or any three or more of them shall forthwith treate and contract with M<sup>r</sup> Tisdale and his Tennant for a convenient Inner Roome or Roomes out of the Councell Chamber into his Tenement next adioyninge; And to take present order for the makeinge of the same Roomes fitt, and for conuertinge of the aforesaid yards into a garden and for the makeinge of a fitt way into the same out of the saide Inner Roome or Roomes, And M<sup>r</sup> Chamberlen is hereby ordered to satisfie and pay the charges and monies to be expended for and about the premisses.<sup>1</sup>

27<sup>th</sup> March 1623.

PROBY, Mayor.

Item upon a motion unto this Courte, for the fynishing of the new erected gallereye, out of the newe Councell Chamber, the same is by this Court in all thinges referred to the discretion and order of S<sup>r</sup> Edward Barkham, Knight and Aldrān, M<sup>r</sup> Aldrān John Gore, M<sup>r</sup> Aldrān Ham'slye, M<sup>r</sup> Aldrān Camble, M<sup>r</sup> Aldrān Raynton, Sir Humphereye Hanford and M<sup>r</sup> Nicholas Leate or any foure of them. And Thomas Lawrance to warne and attend them.<sup>2</sup>

24<sup>th</sup> April 1623.

PROBY, Mayor.

Item it is agreed and see ordered by this Court that the new erected gallereye out of the Councell Chamber shalbe playne vainscotted for hanginges att the discretion of the Comittes for that busines appoynted.<sup>3</sup>

On the 3rd July, 1623, a Report of Com<sup>ee</sup> on petitions of Richard Tysdale and George Cheatam as to recompense to be made to them for loss sustained by them by the erection of the new Council Chamber and Gallery, in obstructing lights, &c., and recommending that the sum of £50 be allowed the said Cheatam in satisfaction of all claims.<sup>4</sup> Read and agreed to the same day: and the Chamberlain ordered to pay the same accordingly.

Associated with this building are the names of many distinguished citizens who in their day were closely connected with the municipal life of London. Sir Thomas Middleton, in whose mayoralty the building was nearly completed, was a distinguished man; he was elected Alderman for the Ward of Queenhithe, May 24th, 1603; but refusing to take the oath of an Alderman, was ordered to be imprisoned in Newgate, June 10th; however, he subsequently consented, and was sworn into office June 21; chosen Sheriff, June 24th; knighted by James I at Whitehall, 26th July; and elected to the mayoralty in the year 1613. It was in this year that he went in State to preside at the ceremony of the opening of the New River, at Islington, which had been projected by his younger brother, Sir Hugh, the day selected being the day of his election, 29th September, 1613. Sir Hugh Middleton was the proprietor of a goldsmith's shop in Basinghall Street, which was much frequented by Sir Walter Raleigh. Sir Thomas was also chosen President of Bridewell and Bethlem Hospitals in the latter year, and elected Member of Parliament for the City in 1624-5. Sir John Garrard, Alderman of Aldgate, was of a Kentish family; he was son of Sir William Garrard, Mayor in 1555. Sir Thomas Bennet came from Wallingford; from his family descended the Earls of Tankerville and Arlington. He was connected with the family of Herrick, the King's Jeweller, who was member of Parliament for Leicester, and father of Herrick the poet. Sir Thomas Campbell, Mayor in 1609, came of a Norfolk family. Distinguishing himself in civic life, he became Alderman of Bread Street Ward, and married the daughter of Sir Richard Tempest, Baronet.

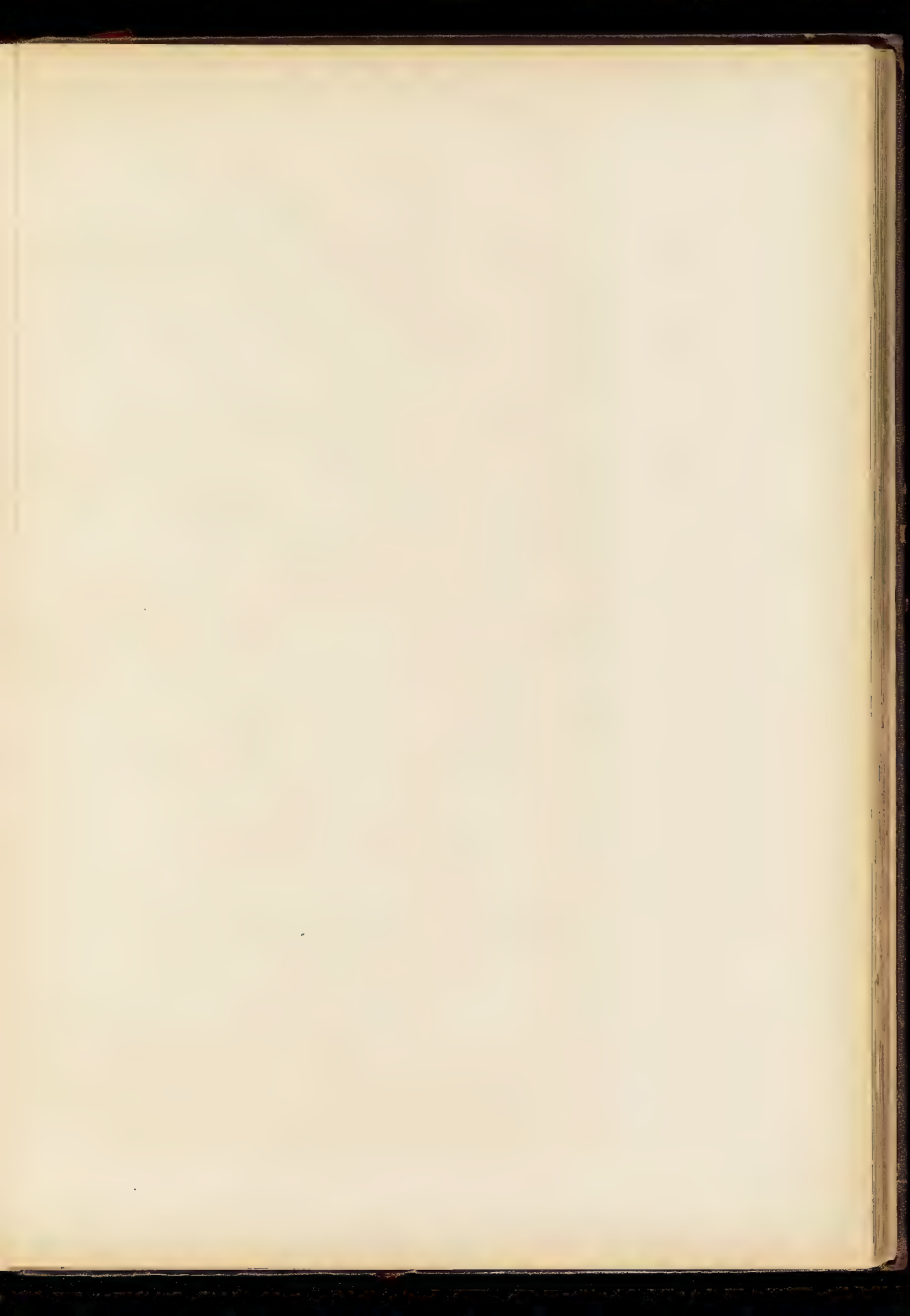
<sup>1</sup> Repertory 35, fol. 71b.

<sup>2</sup> Idem, 37, fol. 152b.

<sup>3</sup> Repertory 37, fol. 135b.

<sup>4</sup> Idem, fol. 203b.







L. P. LINDSEY, DEL.

COUNCIL



W. BRIGGS, PHOTO-ENGRAVER

CHAMBER.





Sir John Swynnerton, Alderman of Cripplegate, was of a Shropshire family, having come to London from Oswestry in that county. It was Sir John Swynnerton who entertained the Count Palatine when he came over to be betrothed to Elizabeth, the daughter of King James I. The marriage took place at Whitehall, February 14, 1613, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and many Earls and Barons were present. The Lord Mayor and his brethren presented the Palgrave with a large basin and ewer, weighing 234 ounces, and two great loving cups of gilt.<sup>1</sup> The bridegroom-elect gained great popularity by saluting the Lady Mayoress and her train. The marriage, however, apparently so auspicious proved anything but a happy one. The pageant written on the occasion of their betrothal was the composition of the poet Thomas Dekker. The one performed on the occasion of the marriage was written by John Taylor, and entitled "Heaven's blessing and earth's joy." These are preserved in the Guildhall Library.

Sir James Pemberton, Mayor in 1611, was Alderman of Bishopsgate and descended from a Lancashire family. Sir Thomas Cambell, a member of the Ironmongers' Company, was elected Alderman of Bridge Without, 15th November, 1599; chosen Sheriff, 24th June, 1600; and elected to the mayoralty on the 29th September, 1609; and then removed to Bread Street Ward, 23rd April, 1610; and subsequently to Coleman Street, 11th October, 1611. He was the son of Robert Cambell, of Tulsham, in Norfolk, descended from a Scotch family of that name, and married Alice, daughter of Edward Bright, of London. Served the office of Master of his Company in 1604, and again in 1613. By his Will, dated 1st September, 1612, a sum of money was left for the purchase of coals by the Corporation to be distributed to the poor of certain parishes in London and Southwark, which is still carried into effect. Sir James Cambell, Knight, Lord Mayor in 1629, was one of his sons.<sup>2</sup>

Sir William Cockayne, Mayor in 1619, was chosen Alderman of Castle Baynard Ward, and made the first Governor of the Irish Society. Born in 1560, and admitted as a Freeman of the Company of Skinners by patrimony in the year 1590. As a City Merchant, he enjoyed a successful career, and was knighted at his own residence, Cockayne House, in Broad Street, London, on the 8th June, 1616, after having entertained James I and the Prince of Wales at a banquet. Sir William owned large estates in the country, for example, the Manor of Rushton, county Northampton; of Elmesthorpe, Swebstone and Nethercote, county Leicester; of Coombe Nevill, in Kingston, county Surrey, &c. He died 20th October, 1626, and was buried in great state at St. Paul's Cathedral, where a handsome monument was erected to him. This stood in the south west part of the choir of old St. Paul's.<sup>3</sup> A good engraving of it is presented in Dugdale's History<sup>4</sup> of that building. The family Arms, as given in the annexed woodcut, are *argent*, three cocks *gules*, armed and legged *sable*. Mr. Alderman Probye, a member of the Grocers' Company, and Mayor in the year 1622, descended from a Shropshire family, he was selected Alderman of the Ward of Queenhithe. Lord Craysfort descended from his family.



<sup>1</sup> Repertory 37, fol. 208.

<sup>2</sup> Nichols' "History of the Ironmongers' Company," p. 536.

<sup>3</sup> "History and Antiquities of the Company of Skinners," by J. F. Wadmore, published in the "Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society."

<sup>4</sup> 4th Edition, 1658, p. 68.

Sir John Jolles, was of an Essex family. He founded a school at Stratford le Bow, Middlesex, in the year 1620; and was elected Alderman for Tower Ward, 11th June, 1605; chosen Sheriff, by the citizens, on the 24th of the same month; knighted by James I at Greenwich, 23rd July, 1606; and elected to the mayoralty in the year 1615. A pageant in his honour was performed on this occasion at the expense of the Drapers' Company, to which he belonged; it was entitled "Metropolis Coronata," the Triumph of Ancient Drapery, the author being Anthony Munday.<sup>1</sup> A copy of this little book is preserved in the Corporation Library. Sir John Leman, Mayor in the year 1616, is also associated with the building; he was of a Norfolk family, became Alderman of Langbourne Ward, and President of Christ's Hospital. Sir Sebastian Harvey, Mayor in the year 1618, came from Staffordshire. He was at the time Alderman of the Ward of Cheap; his father had filled the civic chair in the year 1581; both were members of the Ironmongers' Company. Sir Sebastian was Master of the Company in the year 1600; and knighted, 16th July, 1616. His daughter, Mary, was sought for in marriage by Sir Christopher Villiers, afterwards Earl of Anglesea, when she was but fourteen years of age, and the King personally interested himself in the match, but the father, who is said to have been of a wilful and dogged disposition, would not consent, and the lady subsequently, on the 21st June, 1621, when still under sixteen, married John, eldest son of Sir Francis Popham.<sup>2</sup> Sir Edward Barkham, Alderman of the Ward of Farringdon Without, and afterwards of Cheap Ward, a member of the Drapers' Company, received the honour of a baronetcy in 1623, having previously been knighted. He was elected Lord Mayor in 1621. This gentleman was evidently a man of large wealth. He was a great benefactor to his Company, and largely contributed to the building of St. James's Church, Duke's Place. He also subscribed to the rebuilding of Trinity Church, Aldgate, and by his Will directed a sermon to be preached in the same church yearly, and left ten shillings each to ten of the poorest people of the parish who should attend to hear the sermon. One of his daughters married Sir Charles Caesar, Master of the Rolls, and another, Susan, married Robert Walpole, of Houghton; their grandson, Sir Robert Walpole, was the famous Prime Minister in the reigns of George I and George II. Sir Edward died January 15th, 1633.

New  
Council  
Chamber.

The first stone of the New Council Chamber was laid on the 30th of April, 1883, and the first meeting within its precincts was held on the 2nd of October, 1884. It was built from the designs and under the superintendence of Sir Horace Jones, P.R.I.B.A., the City Architect, upon the north side of the Guildhall, and upon the site originally occupied by the old Court of Exchequer, the Chamberlain's, Town Clerk and Architect's Offices.

It will be seen from the accompanying engraving that the building is duodecagonal in design; its diameter is 54 feet, surrounded by a corridor 9 feet wide, above which is a

<sup>1</sup> Born in 1553, he in early life became an actor, subsequently a tradesman's apprentice; later on he was celebrated for writing ballads, and was known according to Warton as a "City poet and a composer and contriver of the City-pageants." In addition to the composition above-mentioned, he wrote "Chryso Triumphos" in the year 1611; "Chrysanaleia—the Golden Fishery," 1616, and "The Triumphs of Re-united Britannia." He died at the age of eighty years on the 10th August, 1633, and was buried at St. Stephen's Church, Coleman Street. His "Metropolis Coronata" and "Chrysanaleia" have been reproduced by Nichols in the "Progresses, &c., of King James I."

<sup>2</sup> Remembrancia, 1579-1664, p. 313.





HORACE JONES, ARCHITECT.

W. GRIGGS, PHOTO-LITH.

THE NEW COUNCIL CHAMBER, GUILDHALL.

*(First Sitting of the Court of Common Council, 2nd October, 1854).*





gallery for the accommodation of the public and the press. The height from the floor to the dome is 61 feet 6 inches; above this rises an oak Lantern, the top of which is 81 feet 6 inches; this lights and ventilates the entire chamber. The entrance for the Lord Mayor and Aldermen is from the Dais at the east end of the Guildhall, and that for the Members of the Corporation from the corridor, and the public from Basinghall Street.

There is sitting accommodation for 25 Aldermen, Recorder and Sheriffs, and 206 Common Councilmen. Division gangways are provided, running north and south of the chamber.

The materials used in the construction of the building are Bath and Portland stone for the windows and dressings, &c. The walls are faced externally with Kentish rag. The columns and arches of the arcade are in polished Hopton Wood stone. The interior of the Dome is parcelled out by massive oak ribs, traceried lunettes, and twelve three-light clerestory windows, the central lights being filled in with figure subjects, representing the cardinal virtues; the panels immediately above these windows have artistic Frescoes, representing the various trades and craft of the following Livery Companies, with their Arms above tastefully placed in the lunettes. The Companies represented are, the Armourers, Bakers, Barbers, Brewers, Brasiers, Clothworkers, Cutlers, Drapers, Dyers, Fishmongers, Girdlers, Goldsmiths, Grocers, Haberdashers, Ironmongers, Leathersellers, Mercers, Merchant-Tailors, Pewterers, Salters, Skinners, Tallow Chandlers, Vintners and Wax Chandlers. On the panels of either side of the windows are represented the flowers and fruits of the several months of the year, together with the signs of the Zodiac.

The twelve richly-canopied carved Screens, which divide the chamber from the corridor, are executed in wainscot glazed with ornamental lead-lights, having the Arms of the various Companies, viz., Apothecaries, Basket-makers, Blacksmiths, Bowyers, Broderers, Butchers, Carpenters, Clockmakers, Coachmakers, Cooks, Coopers, Cordwainers, Curriers, Distillers, Fan-makers, Farriers, Felt-makers, Fletchers, Founders, Framework-knitters, Fruiterers, Glass-sellers, Glaziers, Glovers, Gold and Silver Wire-drawers, Gunmakers, Horners, Innholders, Joiners, Loriners, Makers of Playing Cards, Masons, Musicians, Needle-makers, Painters-stainers, Parish Clerks, Patten-makers, Plasterers, Plumbers, Poulterers, Saddlers, Scriveners, Shipwrights, Spectacle-makers, Stationers, Tin-plate-workers, Turners, Tylers and Brick-layers, Upholders, Weavers, Wheel-wrights and Woolmen. In the four niches have been placed the busts of Her Majesty, the Queen and H.R.H. the late Prince Consort and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. Behind the Lord Mayor's seat is the statue of George the Third. The inscription on the pedestal, written by Samuel Birch, Esq., Lord Mayor in 1815, has not been removed to this Chamber. The gallery has a guard-rail of rich wrought iron-work. The building is lighted by an elaborate gilt pendant chandelier and brass standard lights.

In the annexed illustration, is shown the Chamberlain's Court erected in the year 1787, at the time when so many other alterations were effected. It was demolished in the year 1882, in order to make room for the New Council Chamber. Situated to the right of the Court of King's Bench, it was a building of regular form; designed in the Greek style, and in good classical taste. The centre was 21 feet 9 inches square and high. Each end was completed by an elliptical apse, 7 feet 9 inches deep;

Chamber-  
lain's Court.

the principal entrance from the ante-room being in the centre of the western end, with opposite side-doors to offices. The walls were enriched by pilasters, the ceiling of a vaulted form, and other suitable details completed the principal features of the room.

A doorway provided access to the Dais of the Hall upon special occasions by a staircase which will be observed by reference to the illustrations. The Court was lighted by opposite windows, filling in the segmental space between an architrave and the ceiling. The east window, with wall and slate roof and tall chimney-shaft is accurately defined in the illustration of "The East end of Guildhall," &c., on the right of the turret north-east of the Hall against which these abutted.



The office of Chamberlain with which the above building was so intimately associated, is referred to at a very early period in the history of the Corporation; indeed, it is among the first recognised in the records. The entries in the Letter Books commence with the year 1275, and in that particular year occurs the first mention of the Chamberlain. At this time his office was combined with that of the Mayor and Coroner, all three appointments being held by the same individual. The reference is to be found in Coroner's Roll, 1275-6, 4 Edward I,<sup>1</sup> in the time of Ralph le Blound and John Horn,

<sup>1</sup> Riley's "Memorials," p. 3.

Sheriffs. This Roll contains entries as to individuals who had been found dead, some by drowning and other accidents, and upon whom inquests had been held. The enquiries made seem to have been under the supervision of the Chamberlain and Sheriffs, for the former official is more than once referred to. In this particular case he is described as "Sir Gregory de Rokesle, being then Chamberlain in this City." Sir Gregory, the wealthy goldsmith, to whom we have previously referred, was acting as Mayor in the year 1275; it is evident, therefore, that he at this time was discharging the duties not only of the Mayor but those required of a Coroner and Chamberlain.<sup>1</sup> In the year 1277-8, Mathew de Columbers was appointed to the office, but in a document bearing the date 1298, 26 Edward I, it appears that Henry le Galeys was Lord Mayor, and that in a matter connected with the defeat of the Scots at the well-known battle of Falkirk, he was associated with John de Donestaple the *then* Chamberlain. Again on the 24th April, 1300, in the mayoralty of Elias Russell, it is recorded that in the presence of thirteen Aldermen, whose names are given, he proceeded to the choice of Nicholas Pycott, as Chamberlain of the City of London, and that there and then was delivered to him all things that to the said Chamberlain appertains, by John le Donestaple and Simon de Parys, Chamberlains, and they were removed on the same day from the office they had holden.<sup>2</sup> In 1304, Richard Poteral was elected and sworn as Chamberlain before John le Blount, Mayor, and in the presence of the Aldermen and Sheriffs.<sup>3</sup> In the year 1315, one John Dode, was Chamberlain, and three years later, by a Charter dated 8th June, 1318, 12 Edward II, it was ordered and directed that the Chamberlain, Common Clerk, and Common Sergeant of the said City should be chosen by the Commonalty, and be removed at their wish. Among the distinguished men who have filled the office, was Andrew Horn, Citizen and Fishmonger; he held the appointment for many years, having previously been in business as a fishmonger in Bridge Street. He is thus referred to in the year 1315, 8 Edward II, where he is one of sixteen who had been summoned to the Guildhall upon an assertion that their "dorsers," or "baskets" used for the transport of fish were of insufficient measure. Those belonging to Horn were found to be correct, but, with one other exception, all were convicted, and their baskets ordered to be burnt in the "King's Highway of Chepe."<sup>4</sup> In 1325, he is spoken of as Chamberlain, and we next hear of his decease in the year 1328. At his death a valuable MS. compilation was discovered, viz., a book called "Liber Horn." It contained manuscripts of charters, statutes, grants, customs, precedents, oaths, charters of companies, charters of towns, writs, &c. This he had bequeathed to the City by his will, dated 9th October, 1328. It is a valuable composition written in Norman-French, and is preserved amongst the City Archives.

On the 23rd September, 1404, 6 Henry IV, an ordinance was passed by the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council, that after the Sheriffs shall have been elected, the Mayor, Aldermen, &c., being discreet men of the City, should proceed to elect the Chamberlain and the Keeper of the Bridge.<sup>5</sup> To this latter office we may here refer, inasmuch as the management of what are known as the Bridge House Estates is under the supervision of the Chamberlain, and the ancient connection between him and the officials referred to

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book B, fol. 3. (Old numeration.)

<sup>2</sup> Letter Book C, fol. 45.

<sup>3</sup> Letter Book C, fol. 112.

<sup>4</sup> Letter Book E, fol. 32.

<sup>5</sup> Letter Book, I, fol. 32.



is illustrated by the foregoing entry. Although there appears to be no record which mentions the Keeper of the Bridge previous to the 14th century, there is every reason to believe that such an appointment existed probably from the first construction of a bridge connecting Southwark with the City. Stow speaks of the old wooden structure which existed in the year 994, but Mr. Kemble<sup>1</sup> has produced evidence of one long previous; indeed, it is but natural to conclude that the Romans during their settlement in this country, must have had means of communication with the south bank of the River Thames by a wooden fabric similar to those known to have been erected by them in other places. The first record of a stone bridge relates to that founded by Peter of Colechurch, in the year 1176, 23 Henry II, he having some thirteen years previously rebuilt the old bridge which had been so materially injured by the Great Fire in King Stephen's reign. Stow tell us how the old bridge was maintained, "partly by the proper lands thereof, partly by the liberality of divers persons and partly by taxations in divers shires."<sup>2</sup> Soon after, King John gave certain lands in the City for the purpose of buildings, the profits whereof were to remain for the reparation of the bridge. A Chapel was then erected by the master mason at his own expense, and in this there existed in olden time a tabular record of the gifts of land, tenements and money which were from time to time devoted to the maintenance of the bridge. This record, Stow tells us, remained in the Chapel until it was turned into a dwelling house, when it was removed to the "Bridge House," and he expresses the regret that he had been unable to obtain a sight of so valuable a record. From the mention of the "Bridge House," it is obvious that there would be a responsible official in charge, even at this early period, and whose duties were analogous to those belonging to the Chamberlain and Bridge Master of later times. One of the earliest references is that recorded under the year 1311, 5 Edward II, when John de Wymondeham and Thomas Prentice were elected Keepers of the Bridge of London, in the presence of the Mayor and Aldermen, "by the election of the good men of the Commonalty, and by the assent of the said Mayor and Aldermen." The qualification for the office appears to have been residence or occupation, payment of scot and lot, and to this was added, in the reign of Richard I, a regulation that the Keeper must of necessity be a Freeman of the City.

By the Act of Common Council in the reign of Henry IV, to which reference has been made, it was provided that neither the Chamberlain or Warden of the Bridge should remain in their offices more than two successive years, and after any of them should be removed, to none of the said offices should he be in anywise elected for two years then next following.

Upon the same day on which this Act was passed, John Proffyt, Fishmonger, was elected Chamberlain, and William Sevenok, Grocer, and John Whatelee, Mercer, were elected Keepers or Wardens of the Bridge for the ensuing year. Similar entries to the above subsequently appear on record for very many years. The office, however, though in ancient times one of considerable importance, has long ceased to be so. The duties have become considerably reduced, the receipt of the rents and other profits connected with the Bridge House Estates, having been transferred to the Chamberlain's department.

<sup>1</sup> "Codex Diplomaticus Ævi Saxonici," vol. i, p. 59.

<sup>2</sup> Stow's "Survey," p. 10.



As an historical personage intimately connected with the Corporation, William Sevenok, as a Warden of London Bridge, deserves a passing notice. As a city hero, he is referred to in a quaint old chronicle published in the year 1592. The author, one Richard Johnson,<sup>1</sup> who is known to literary fame as having written the, "History of the Seven Champions of Christendom," includes him with eight others in his *Nine Worthies of London*. Each is made to describe his career in his own fashion to a certain extent in rhyme, accompanied by additions in prose, for example :—

Sir William Sevenoke tells how he was found under seven oaks, near a small town in Kent, and after receiving some education, was apprenticed to a Grocer in London. His apprenticeship having expired, he went with Henry V to France, where—

"The Dolphyne (Dauphin) then of France, a comely knight,  
Disguised, came by chance into a place,  
Where I, well wearied with the heat of fight,  
Had laid me down, for war had ceased his chace ;  
And, with reproachful words, as lazy swain,  
He did salute me ere I long had lain,  
I, knowing that he was mine enemy,  
A bragging Frenchman (for we termed them so),  
Ill brooked the proud disgrace he gave to me,  
And therefore lent the Dolphyne such a blow,  
As warmed his courage well to lay about,  
Till he was breathless, though he were so stout.  
At last the noble prince did ask my name,  
My birth, my calling, and my fortunes past ;  
With admiration he did hear the same,  
And so a bag of crowns he to me cast ;  
And, when he went away, he said to me,  
'Sevenoke, be proud, the Dolphyne fought with thee !'"

The war over, Sevenoke determined to turn Grocer again, and in time became famous for his wealth. In 1413, he was made Sheriff ; in 1418, elected Lord Mayor, and, two years later, represented London in Parliament. By his will, he set apart a portion of his wealth to build and maintain twenty almshouses, and a free school at Sevenoaks. In Elizabeth's reign, the school was named "Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School," and received a Common Seal for its use. It still exists, and possesses six exhibitions wherewith to reward its scholars.

The other civic heroes whose deeds are chronicled as deserving of lasting fame are Sir William Walworth, Sir Henry Pitchard, Sir Thomas White, Sir John Bonham, Sir Christopher Croker, Sir John Hawkwood, Sir Hugh Caverley, and Sir Henry Maleverer, Citizen and Grocer, better known elsewhere in this work as Henry of Cornhill, one of the crusaders in the reign of King Henry IV.

In the Chamberlain's office now pulled down, the business of the Chamberlain was conducted. It included the swearing in of Freemen, enrolling Apprentices, and determining any disputes that might arise between them and their masters, a moral lesson as regards

<sup>1</sup> Vide "The Nine Worthies of London, explaining the honourable Exercise of Arms, the virtues of the valiant and the memorable attempts of magnanimous minds ; pleasant for Gentlemen, not unseemly for Magistrates, and most profitable for 'Prentices," by Richard Johnson, 1592."

the former being preserved in the exhibition of the well-known prints by Hogarth of the "Idle and Industrious Apprentices." These were the first objects of attraction to be seen on entering the room. It should be stated that if any of the Apprentices proved unruly or insubordinate, they were temporarily imprisoned under the authority of the Chamberlain in two small cages or prisons. These were situated beneath the Hall-Keeper's offices and were called LITTLE EASE, "not being of sufficient height for a big boy to stand upright." In the illustration may be identified the full length portrait of Sir James Shaw, Bart., Chamberlain, painted by Mrs. Charles Pearson, and presented by her in 1843. This hung in the Court, and now occupies a prominent position in the Chamberlain's present Court. Also, on the walls, were deposited more than sixty duplicate copies of the Honorary Freedoms and Thanks voted by the Corporation to distinguished personages. These beautiful productions in the art of ornamental caligraphy, with their accessories of emblazoned heraldry and illuminations, borderings, &c., were executed by the late Thomas Tompkins, Walter Paton, and others.<sup>1</sup> A portrait of the former talented artist, executed by Sir Joshua Reynolds, P.R.A., was among the objects of interest which adorned the walls. Under the portrait of Tompkins was the motto, "*Opera inter talia primus*." Deposited here, were several other prints, including a finely-coloured one of the window at New College, Oxford.

The ante-chamber, with adjoining lobby to offices, was lighted by three windows in the wall at the south end of the Yard. Access to these chambers was from the Corridor through the Lobby (anciently the Porch) by an archway and staircase, into the ante-room. The official department was here entered, and in this the financial business appertaining to the Chamberlain's department was transacted. The principal office was 42 feet long, 23 feet wide, and 13 feet high, with two strong fire-proof rooms, a private room, and a small office in addition. The walls were finished with pilasters and arches. The lighting was effected by large windows, and a rectangular lantern through the ceiling. The earlier building had been destroyed by fire in the year 1786, an event which is thus recorded in one of the diaries of the time:—"February, 1786. Tuesday, 7th. About three this morning a fire was discovered in the lower apartments of the house, lately occupied by the Chamberlain of London, which is supposed to have begun in the rooms preparing for an office for the City Surveyor. The wind being very high and the flames increasing with amazing rapidity, soon destroyed the Chamberlain's office (*with the books in which were registered the admission of freemen*), and greatly damaged the house adjoining, but the adjoining parts of Guildhall received very little damage, and the other offices and their contents were all saved."<sup>2</sup> In addition to the loss of the interesting series of books connected with the admission of Freemen, books of accounts, several bonds and a considerable sum of money both in notes and cash were destroyed. Part of the Court of King's Bench was also damaged, but, as mentioned, the fire was at length got under without communicating to the other offices.

In the reference to this calamity which appears in the City records,<sup>3</sup> mention is made of the various books, documents, and accounts, which were destroyed on the occasion; but it appears that the early deeds and manuscripts, together with the charters and principal books which were in the office of the Town Clerk, and consequently in imminent

<sup>1</sup> Since deposited in the Library.

<sup>2</sup> See "*Antiquary*," vol. xiii, p. 82.

<sup>3</sup> *Journal*, vol. lxi, fol. 346b.

danger, were taken away in time, and removed to a house in the neighbourhood for temporary security. This fire led naturally to extensive alterations, and there are numerous references and detailed reports from the various committees appointed to direct the restoration.

In following out the plan, we identify the Town Clerk's office, situated near on the one side to the Chamberlain's residence, and on the other to Measure Yard; adjoining were the offices then known as the "Repositories," abutting on the garden attached to the residence of the Town Clerk. On the north of Church Alley, remains of these respective buildings were, as elsewhere mentioned, disclosed when the excavations were in progress for the erection of the new Council Chamber. These are indicated on the illustration of the exterior of the Hall upon its Northern side. The office of the Town Clerk occupied the whole of the building below the Old Exchequer Court. There had been considerable alterations in the latter from the arrangements shown on the plan, the earlier doorways and windows abolished and partition walls removed for better light; in the east wall two very large square-headed windows of Tudor character, one 22 feet and the other 11 feet wide, were substituted; and for more convenient access, the doorway is shown in the illustration, "Area under Chamberlain's Court." The four east windows retained their original position and form, but the mediæval work had been obliterated and cut away, where the modern fittings and dressings occurred. The whole of the external faces of the Court buildings, as viewed from the Yard and elsewhere, were cemented, having plinth, string course and cornice. Suitable mouldings finished the window openings, and the doorway only was of stone. The building was roofed with a flat, covered with lead. The height of the Court from the yard to the coping was 39 feet 6 inches, and the length about 57 feet. The Yard was about the same level as Basinghall Street and the adjacent area. Immediately adjoining the north end wall, on a portion of the "Yard" on the plan, a doorway and staircase communicates with the inner vestibule, loggia and corridor, giving additional access to the Hall, Council Chambers, the Aldermen's Court Room, Committee Rooms and Municipal Offices, &c., from Basinghall Street; from this entrance also a passage-way leads to the Town Clerk's present department; also access is provided to the present Chamber of London, the Commission of Sewers, and certain minor offices.

Town  
Clerk.

Above the "Area under Chamberlain's Court" was situated the Chamberlain's Office with its ante-room; and over Mr. Architect's Offices, a large Chamber for the transaction of the business of his department; the whole forming a convenient, well-lighted and spacious suite of official rooms. Upon reference to the plan of 1750, it will be observed that the Chamberlain's House and Repository with a building over the area or covered way, are clearly indicated.

The office of Town Clerk, or Common Clerk, is one of early origin. He is a chartered official, and is considered a recognised member of the Corporation. Although there are but few records extant to tell us anything concerning the nature of his duties in olden time, it is clear from the character of those now discharged that his office, in common with those of the Mayor, Aldermen, Recorder, and others in authority, can be traced to a classic source, in other words, derived from the municipal organisation

which directed the ordinary life of Greece and Rome. In that deeply interesting and natural account given in Scripture of a tumult among the citizens of Ephesus owing to the fear that a particular branch of trade would be materially injured by the daily increasing influence of the preaching of St. Paul against idolatry of all kind, appears the earliest mention of such an officer, for although the word "Grammateus,"—*γραμματεὺς* is often translated "scribe," associating such a term with the duties of a notary or clerk, a pagan official does not appear to have been styled by any of our translators as Town Clerk except in the description of the panic which occurred among the silversmiths of Ephesus on the occasion referred to when we are told that he, after haranguing the multitude, pointing out to them that ample legitimate opportunities existed whereby their grievances could be considered, "dismissed the assembly."<sup>1</sup>

The meaning of the word in Latin *Scriba*, in French *Greffier*, has been given, even in the early versions, as signifying a keeper of the archives, secretary to a council, &c. It appears to have been the duty of such an officer to record the laws and decrees when made, to hold a place as a member of the deliberative assembly, and in this particular case, it devolved upon him to keep the peace. His duties varied in accordance with customs enjoyed in the different provinces and cities of the East, but there is a strange analogy between them and those required of the officials who have occupied a like position to the present day. Of the various appointments connected with the Corporation, we have been enabled to trace references concerning them almost to the very commencement of the records, but in this particular instance, there appears to be no information as to the office until the early part of the fourteenth century, when there is a distinct mention of a Common Clerk to the Corporation. On the 8th June, 1318, 8 Edward II, the King directed by his Letters Patent, that the Chamberlain, Common Clerk, and Common Serjeant of the City be chosen by the Commonalty. This was afterwards confirmed by Edward III, by a Charter granted to the citizens on the 26th May, 1341. Of the various distinguished men who have held the appointment, should be mentioned John Carpenter,<sup>2</sup> founder of the City of London School, friend and executor of Richard Whittington, Member of Parliament for the City of London, and of whom we have spoken elsewhere. William Dunthorn, 2 Edward IV, 1462, who in the interest he experienced in the exercise of the duties imposed upon him, compiled a volume equal in value to that bequeathed by Andrew Horn, the Chamberlain. The "*Liber Dunthorn*," written on vellum, in Latin, Norman-French, and English, contains an important selection of transcripts of Charters ranging from William the Conqueror to 3 Edward IV, 27 August, 1464, and of a portion of the "*Liber Albus*" connected with the records of the Hustings Court, together with other extracts from the Rolls and Letter Books. It is on record that William Dunthorn, at a meeting held on 12th October, 1466–7, 7 Edward IV, was voted the sum of twenty pounds as an addition to his customary fee of ten pounds, and a reward of five marks yearly, on account of services rendered to the Corporation. The grant was to be continued during his tenure of office, and there was to be an assignment made to John Norman and others in the name of the Mayor and Aldermen under the King's Letters of £115. 3s. 3d., payable to the customs of the Port of Sandwich, to the intent that Dunthorn should write anew one or two books containing all the customs and ordinances of the City at his own charges.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Acts of the Apostles," c. xix, v. 35.

<sup>2</sup> "Memoir of the life and times of John Carpenter," by Thomas Brewer, 1856.

<sup>3</sup> Journal, viii, fol. 91.



Adjoining the Porch of the Hall is the department of the Comptroller of the Chamber and of the Bridge-House Estates. There are two strong rooms attached to this, one by the Porch and the other in a passage beneath the Library. The strong room of the Bridge-House is situated next to that of the Town Clerk. On referring to the plan of 1750, it will be seen that but little change has been effected as to the space occupied by these offices; the space coloured green representing, with tolerable accuracy, that which is devoted to the business of the Comptroller at the present time. The principal duties required of this officer of the Corporation is to attend the Lord Mayor and Courts of Aldermen, &c., on all public and State occasions, to act as Vice-Chamberlain in the absence of the Chamberlain by illness or any other cause, to have charge of the various deeds, plans, &c., relative to the City and Bridge-House Estates, the Markets of the Corporation, and other properties, to prepare reports from various committees for presentation to the Court, to draw up or examine leases, to keep all accounts in connection with rentals, tolls, &c., and sundry other matters of like nature in accordance with such instructions as may be given him from time to time at the discretion of the Court. The offices will, as the proposed improvements at the Hall are gradually developed, doubtless be demolished, as it is to be hoped the remaining portion of George Dance's hideous façade will be removed from the front and expose the grand old Gothic frontage.

Comptroller.

In an earlier portion of this work, reference has been made to the construction of the kitchen and its adjacent offices; likewise to the assistance rendered by Sir John Shaa, Goldsmith, who at the time was Mayor. Sir John was of an Essex family, resided at Rochford, and rose to distinction, was knighted on Bosworth Field by Henry VII, and made a Banneret. So actively connected with the Corporation was this wealthy Goldsmith that a brief notice of his family and connections will not be out of place. His pedigree herewith given illustrates their association with the City.

Receptions  
and Enter-  
tainments.

In the Visitation of London, in the year 1568, taken by Robert Cooke, Clarenceux King of Arms, the Pedigree and Arms of Sir John Shaa are set out as follows:—

## SHAA.

PLAM CIVIS LONDINENSIS —  
ARMS.—*Argent, a fess engrailed between  
six cinque-folis Sable.*

ARMS. *Argent a chevron between three  
lozenges ermines.* Jo: Shaa Miles Mayor London. L. Maria Margareta filia et heres recepta Joh: Baynford militis.

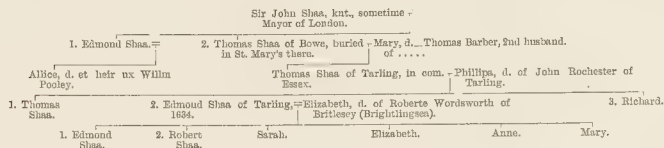
Thomas Shaa et heres ux Willelmi  
Alicia filia et heres recepta Willelmi Poley  
Johannes Poley de Bextol.  
Thomas Shaa filius et  
heres Thomas  
Edmundus Shaa of Rochford  
son ou tils Hill, in  
Essex.  
ux Willelmi Browne filij Jhonis Browne  
mair & Lekepe, et militis.

Harleian Society Publications, vol. i, 1869, p. 77.

In the above, the Chevron on the Shield of Arms is described as between three lozenges *ermine*, whereas at a subsequent Visitation of Essex, taken in the

AA

year 1634, *ermine* is the word used.<sup>1</sup> The Pedigree, as set out in the later record is interesting as it includes the names of later members of the family. The Visitation taken was by Owen and Lilly, in the year above mentioned.



Harleian Society Publications, vol. xiii, 1878, p. 486.

Sir Edmund Shaa, also a Goldsmith, filled the office of Sheriff in 1474, 14 Edward IV, and was elected to the mayoralty in 1482, in the twenty-third year of the same reign. He was the son of John Shaa, of Dunkerfield, in Cheshire, and created a Privy Councillor by Richard III. He founded a Free Grammar School at Stockport, in Cheshire, the town where his father and mother were buried. His brother Ralph was Prebendary of St. Paul's, and the preacher of the celebrated sermon in favour of King Richard, in the pulpit of Paul's Cross. It has been stated that both he and one Pinker, an Augustine Friar, were induced by Alderman Shaw to embrace the cause of the Duke of Gloucester, an incident thus introduced by Shakspeare into his well-known play of Richard III.

"Go Lovel, with all speed to Dr. Shaw :  
Go thou (to Catesby) to Friar Pinker, bid them both  
Meet me within this hour at Baynard's Castle."

Act iii, Scene iv.

It was Sir John Shaa, the Mayor, who first gave the customary banquet on Lord Mayor's Day within the Hall, the feast having formerly been held either at Grocers' Hall, or some other convenient place. This was, however, not the first time that Guildhall had been utilised for like purpose, the earlier building, viz., that existing prior to its enlargement and alteration in the year 1411, had been selected by the Corporation for the reception of royalty on occasions when it was honoured by the acceptance of its proffered hospitality, for we find in connection with those gorgeous pageants, so highly attractive as they were to the citizens of the Middle Ages, that Guildhall has ever held a conspicuous position from the days of the Edwards to those of Victoria; and that the great entertainments within its walls have vied with each other in splendour and magnificence. It would be impossible within these limits to attempt any description of the number, their character, or to refer to all the historical events with which they were connected. At the same time, so intimately are they associated with the traditions of the building that mention should be made of a few of the more imposing of the ceremonials.

One of the most sumptuous would appear to be that in honour of the birth of a son to Queen Isabel, daughter of Philip de Bel and wife of King Edward II. She is described by Froissart, as *une des plus belle femmes du monde*. She appears,

<sup>1</sup> This makes a considerable amount of difference in describing the Shield, inasmuch as the colours are thereby reversed. For example, *Ermine* would be White Fur with Black Spots, whereas *Ermines* is Black Fur with White Spots. With the uncertainty before me I have adopted the description given in the Visitation of 1568.

however, to have had but little appreciation from her husband, who devoted his attentions more to Piers Gaveston, the handsome youth of Gascony then his favourite at Court, than to the wife who in January, 1308, he had crossed the seas to marry. It will be seen, however, from the following interesting details of the entertainment celebrated at Guildhall, that the sentiments of the citizens were still as loyal towards their handsome Queen some four years later as they were on the occasion of the great civic rejoicings when they met her on her first arrival in England. It is at this period that the event occurred which she thought well to at once announce to the citizens herself. The proceedings adopted by them on its receipt are interesting as is the enthusiasm displayed by the Fishmongers who, after having presented her with a boat in the guise of a ship, escorted her throughout the City. Her husband's reign extended over a period of twenty years, and in its course troublous times often came upon the citizens; they being at one time in favour, and at another in disgrace, according to the varying changes in the temper of this monarch. The letter, as copied from the records, is as follows:—

"Isabel, by the grace of God, Queen of England, Lady of Ireland, and Duchess of Aquitaine, to our beloved, the Mayor, and Aldermen, and the Commonalty of London, greeting. Forasmuch as we believe that you would willingly hear good tidings of us, we do make known unto you that our Lord, of his grace, has delivered us of a son, on the 18th day of November with safety to ourselves, and to the child. May our Lord preserve you. Given at Wyndesore, on the day above named."

Of this letter the bearer was John de Phalaise, tailor to the Queen; and he came on the Tuesday next after the Feast of St. Martin, 11th November, in the 6th year of the reign of King Edward, son of King Edward. But as the news had been brought by Robert Oliver on the Monday before, the Mayor and the Aldermen, and the great part of the Commonalty, assembled in the Guildhall at time of Vespers, and carolled, and shewed great joy thereat; and so passed through the City with great glare of torches, and with trumpets and other minstrelsies.

And on the Tuesday next, early in the morning, cry was made throughout all the City to the effect that there was to be no work, labour, or business in shop, on that day; but that every one was to apparel himself in the most becoming manner that he could, and come to the Guildhall at the hour of Prime, ready to go with the Mayor, together with the other good folks, to St. Paul's, there to make praise and offering to the honour of God, who had shewn them such favour on earth, and to shew respect for this child that had been born. And after this they were to return altogether to the Guildhall, to do whatever might be enjoined.

And the Mayor, and the Aldermen assembled at the Guildhall, together with the good folks of the Commonalty; and from thence they went to St. Paul's, where the Bishop, on the same day chaunted Mass with great solemnity; and there they made their offering. And after Mass, they led carols in the Church of St. Paul, to the sound of trumpets, and then returned each to his house.

On the Wednesday following, the Mayor, by assent of the Aldermen, and others of the Commonalty, gave to the said John de Phalaise, bearer of the letter aforesaid, ten pounds sterling and a cup of silver, four marks in weight. And on the morrow, this same John de Phalaise sent back the presents aforesaid, because it seemed to him to be too little.

On the Monday following, the Mayor was richly costumed, and the Aldermen arrayed in like suits of robes; and the Drapers, Mercers and Vintners were in costume; and they rode on horseback from thence to Westminster, and there made offerings, and then returned to the Guildhall, which was excellently well tapestried and dressed out, and there they dined. And after dinner, they went in carols throughout the City all the rest of the day, and great part of the night. And on the same day, the Conduit in Chepe ran with nothing but wine, for all those who chose to drink there. And at the Cross just by the Church of St. Michael in West Chepe, there was a pavilion extended in the middle of the street, in which was set a tun of wine, for all passers-by to drink of, who might wish for any.

On the Sunday next after Candlemas, 2 February, in the year aforesaid, the Fishmongers of London were costumed very richly, and they caused a boat to be fitted out in the guise of a great ship, with all manner of tackle that belongs to a ship; and it sailed through Chepe as far as Westminster, where the Fishmongers came, well mounted, and presented the same ship unto the Queen. And on the same day, the Queen took her route for Cantebire, on pilgrimage thither, whereon, the Fishmongers, all thus costumed, escorted her through the City.<sup>1</sup>

Again on 24th May, 1357, there was a sumptuous entertainment in honour of John, King of France, and Edward the Black Prince. This was in the succeeding year to the great battle of Poitiers, when the former suffered defeat at the hands of the valiant Edward. The civic reception was doubtless in commemoration of the victory gained, for there is an interesting account of the battle preserved in the records, addressed by the Prince "to the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of London, as to the battle fought near Peyters." It bears date A.D. 1356, 30 Edward III.

One of the most imposing of these public ceremonies must have been that in commemoration of the victories of Henry V, in France, in the early part of the 15th century. It is one of the grandest upon record, and associated with a great epoch in English history. At the time when Henry embarked upon the war, harmony reigned between the citizens and the crown. The King had been induced to make an effort to reclaim the foreign possessions formerly held by England. He enjoyed a reputation for courage and intrepidity; he had himself determined upon the attempt, and intended that it should be under his own personal superintendence and direction. This but added to his popularity, and so implicit was the belief in his integrity and honour that the wealthy traders of the day advanced him, on uncertain securities, but doubtless at a high rate of interest, large sums of money wherewith to carry on the war. The expenses were enormous and totally out of proportion to the resources of the Exchequer. To his uncle, the Bishop of Winchester, he pledged his crown for 100,000 marks, and portions of his personal jewellery to the Corporation of London for £10,000 sterling.<sup>2</sup> Subsequently the remainder was exchanged in like fashion, Henry authorising their sale at a late date foreseeing repayment to be possible. Among the creditors we find John Norbury,<sup>3</sup> John Hende, Richard Whittington, and others, the personal advance from the latter alone being £1,000, a sum about equal to £10,000 at the present day.

Having left the English shores, his progress through France was a subject of daily interest to the Londoners, and when ultimately the news arrived of his crowning victory, their delight and enthusiasm were unbounded. The story of Agincourt and the heroism of the English King have provided materials for more than one writer of eminence. Selecting the principal facts from the Chronicles of the time, Shakespeare has translated them into one of the most stirring of his plays; his genius has clothed the story with imagery so wondrous, that whenever it is recited, a feeling of admiration is experienced in the contemplation of the bravery and patriotism displayed by our countrymen of the time. It has well been said that the name of Agincourt will be remembered so long as English history will endure. The King had left England in his ship "The Trinity," on the 10th August, 1415. The citizens heard of his landing at Harfleur, of the subsequent loss of many of the noblest of his band by sickness and

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book D, fol. 168 (Norman French).    <sup>2</sup> Mathew Paris, p. 501.    <sup>3</sup> Rymer's "Foedera," vol 8, p. 488.



disease. They knew of the great disproportion between the numbers to be engaged, and all this occasioned great suspense and anxiety as to the ultimate result. It may well be, therefore, understood that when the news of the victory reached London, the joy of the citizens knew no bounds. The first public announcement was made on the 29th October; the King was still in France, but the Chronicle records how, "Early in the morning came tidings to London while that men were in their beds, that the King had fought and won the battle and the field aforesaid, and as soon as they had tidings thereof they went to all the Churches in the City of London, and rang all the bells of every Church." In the interval between the announcement and the arrival of the King in England, from Calais, on the 17th November, his popularity increased, and a triumphal entry was arranged at Dover, the crowds rushed to his ship and he was carried therefrom to shore. Resting at Eltham, he proceeded to London, entering the City on the 23rd November. The magnificence and costly character of the civic reception as contrasted with the modesty and simplicity of himself, and retinue, are detailed in the Chronicles of Holinshed and others.<sup>1</sup> The procession entered London from Southwark; a male and female giant stood at the entrance to London Bridge, the male figure bearing an axe in his right hand, and in his left the keys of the City hanging to a staff as if he had been the porter.<sup>2</sup>

Shakspeare in the opening chorus to Act V of his well-known play, graphically describes the triumphal entry to the City:—

"How London doth pour out her citizens;  
The Mayor and all his brethren in best sort,  
Like to the Senators of the antique Rome,  
With the plebeians, swarming at their heels,  
Go forth to fetch their conquering Caesar in."

*Chorus—Henry V, Act v.*

One of the last public acts of Sir Richard Whittington, as Mayor, was to entertain in princely fashion Henry V and his Queen at the Guildhall. Henry, after his celebrated victory, had returned to France and followed up his career of conquest until his triumphal entry into Rouen on the 16th January, 1419, and his subsequent marriage with the Princess Catherine. Peace concluded, and the whole of Normandy under English rule, the citizens of London welcomed the victorious King to Guildhall with pageantry and festivals of all kinds. Accompanied by his graceful Queen, who during his last absence had resided at Windsor, he was received by Whittington at Guildhall, where, the story goes, and there is no reason to question its veracity, that the wealthy Mayor who was knighted upon the occasion, and had already become a creditor of the King to the extent of some sixty thousand pounds, that while the latter was admiring the fire which had been made up in the old Hall, composed of various kinds of wood mixed with cinnamon and other spices, Whittington produced the bonds, threw them in the fire and burnt them, thus at his own expense releasing the King from debt. All were amazed at such a proceeding, and Henry exclaimed, "Never had Prince such a subject," to which Sir Richard courteously replied, "Never had subject such a Prince."<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Priest's Chronicles, who accompanied the expedition. Cottonian MSS. British Museum. Translated and published by Sir N. H. Nicholas.

<sup>2</sup> "Lord Mayors' Pageants," by F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A. Introduction, p. 22.

<sup>3</sup> "Model Merchant of the Middle Ages," by the Rev. Samuel Lysons, M.A., p. 61.

After Sir John Shaa had provided the requisite accommodation and conveniences, the festivals which took place at the old Hall were always upon a magnificent scale; but it appears from some of the descriptions preserved in the writings of foreign observers, that the proceedings were at times more solemn than joyous. The Venetian traveller who was in England during the reign of Henry VII, once attended the Mayor's banquet at Guildhall, where a thousand people were seated at table, and the dinner lasted four hours and more. He refers to "the infinite profusion of victuals" at the Sheriffs' dinner, and says, "I noticed how punctually they sat in their order, and the extraordinary silence of every one."<sup>1</sup>

On the 18th August, 1554, Philip and Mary made their entry into the City; they came from Richmond, and great preparations were made by the citizens for their entertainment. A magnificent pageant was arranged, the civic giants, Gog and Magog, were conveyed to London Bridge, and the various conduits in the City were handsomely decorated for the occasion. Mary became Queen in the year 1553. At her coronation, the Mayor and twelve Aldermen officiated as butlers according to the customary rule, the Mayor receiving, as usual, the present of a golden cup and ewer. The reception in the City was in honour of the unpopular marriage of the Queen with Philip of Spain. He was both distrusted and disliked. Precautions were taken by Parliament to prevent the possibility of his ever exercising the privileges of an English King, opinions were divided as to any further change in the national religion. Yet, facing all difficulties, Mary determined on the marriage; it was celebrated at Winchester with great pomp and ceremony, and on the 12th August, 1554, the reception took place at Guildhall. Previous to this, however, she had, in the month of February, prominently figured at the Hall. She had been informed of the progress of the rebellion under the direction of Sir Thomas Wyatt, and alarmed at the possible defection of the citizens, she forthwith repaired to the Guildhall, where she was respectfully received by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs, and whom she addressed in stirring language. The news of her approach somewhat frightened the citizens; the Chronicles of that time record how they had been informed that she was on her way with "harnessed men." Numbers fled from the City fearing they might be entrapped and possibly lose their lives; her conciliatory oration, however, restored confidence, the allegiance of the citizens was ensured, and so deep was the impression made, that the Bishop of Winchester, who had accompanied her, exclaimed, when the speech was concluded, "Oh, how happy are we to whom God hath given such a wise and learned prince."

In the year 1641, a feast was given at the Hall on a scale almost unparalleled for its magnificence. Charles I had returned to London from his useless journey into Scotland, having previously accepted an invitation to dine with the Lord Mayor, Sir Richard Gurney, who was a devoted Royalist, and for this adherence to the ill-fated King he was expelled from Parliament. Clarendon, the historian, refers to Sir Richard as being a man of wisdom and courage, and one who had experienced great indignation to see the City so corrupted by the ill-artifices of factious persons, and therefore attended upon his Majesty, at his entrance into the City, with all the lustre and good countenance it could show, and

<sup>1</sup> Italian Relation, p. 22.

as great professions of duty as it could make or the King expect. A copy of the "Oratio Carolina," as the description of the pageant is styled, is preserved in the Library at Guildhall. The Mayor and Aldermen, accompanied by 500 horsemen drafted from the various Livery Companies, went out to the fields at Kingsland and there presented an address to the King and Queen, who were accompanied by the Prince of Wales and other members of the Royal Family. The return to the City was by Moorgate to the Guildhall, where a brilliant entertainment had been provided. This reception was highly gratifying to King Charles, and probably had something to do in encouraging him to proceed with the conflict already commenced with Parliament. Little did those who were assembled at this scene of rejoicing and festivity in the old Hall reflect at the time on what was so soon about to happen, and the change so shortly to take place as to the way he would be received by the citizens.

In the following year he again visited Guildhall, but under totally different circumstances. The occasion was one deserving of mention inasmuch as it illustrates the confidence reposed by the citizens of London in the justice of their determination to retain their traditional rights and privileges, and this at one of the most critical periods of their history. The King had written to the Lord Mayor to summon a meeting of the Court of Common Council in connection with the impeachment of the five members who had been accused of high treason, viz., Pym, Hollis, Hampden, Haslerig, and Strode. We read of their flight to the City, of the application of the King in Parliament as to where he could find them, and of his indignation at the self-conscious silence that prevailed. The day following this scene in the House, Charles repaired to Guildhall for the purpose of enforcing their surrender. The King at that time was personally satisfied as to the loyalty of the Corporation itself, but we are told that the Lord Mayor and Aldermen were no longer masters of the populace. In the very presence of the King was shouted the cry of "Privilege," "Liberty of Parliament," and an heated debate ensued. Charles addressed the assembly, but to little purpose; later on he went to dine with one of the Aldermen—self-invited—but on leaving the house the ill-fated words, "Parliament" and "Privilege" still rung in his ears; they were shouted out by the mob as he left the house surrounding him on all sides. The business could now no longer be conducted with safety at Westminster, so a committee was appointed by the Commons to sit at Guildhall until security was restored. On the 6th January, they held a meeting there and were welcomed by a deputation from the Court of Common Council, who duly appeared in their robes and chains of office. On the following day, however, it was found inconvenient to have the meetings at the Hall, and accordingly the committee adjourned to that of the Grocers' Company where they ultimately resolved, without any regard to the King, to have back the five members. The result of this course of action was an alliance between the Parliament and the City, and the restoration to the House of the members impeached.

Of the list of English Sovereigns who have honoured the Corporation by accepting its hospitality at the Guildhall, few appear to have appreciated their reception more than Charles II. So attractive to him was a civic banquet, that in the course of his reign he dined nine times at the Hall. As an illustration of how the building was decorated on such an occasion, the following description copied from a volume of heraldic collections in

the British Museum, is of interest; the work referred to is illustrated in the MS. by marginal sketches of flags, banners, and other things:—<sup>1</sup>

Worke done and money laid out for the Entertainment of ye Kings Majesty at Gild Hall October 30 Ano. 1671 delivered to Mr. Pead:—

Imprimis for one Large Banner of ye Kyng and Queens Armes and characters at 30 shillings in fine Gold and Silver	£2 10 0
ffor 2 Banners of ye Kyng his Royal Highness his armes and characters at 30 shillings in fine Gold	£3 0 0
ffor 4 Banners wrought, one silk with fine gold and silver of ye armes of the four Kingdoms	£4 0 0
ffor 5 Banners of half yarde square wrought, on silke with fine gold and silver 5 cap. .... Crowns gilt in oyle with fine gold and silver at 6/8	£1 13 4
ffor 7 Crosses and flower de luces one tin studded and gilt with fine gold	9 0 0
ffor 2 duzen and a halph of Vive le Royes pendants at 12 shillings	1 10 0
ffor 12 Sticks gilt and collered all over with party gold and silver at 14d	0 14 0
ffor gilt Rossemary and Laurell to plaine Table	0 12 0
	<hr/> £18 3 8

Worke done and money laid out for the Entertainment of ye Kings Majesty at Guildhall ut ante delivered to Mr. John Wallbridg.

ffor 4 Square Baners of the Kings and his Royal Highnesses Characters Armes and Badges with Crowns wrought on silk with fine gold and silver at 15/-	£3 0 0
ffor 24 Escoutchions with Crowns and Arms of the Kingdoms on pasteboard wrought with gold and silver at 18 shillings	£1 16 0
ffor 4 Crosses and flour de luces, one gilt with fine gold	0 5 0
ffor 4 Sticks a yard long gilt	0 5 0

On the 29th May, 1660, Charles II visited the City on his return from exile, and was entertained in great state by the Mayor, Sir Thomas Allen, who was honoured by knighthood in commemoration of the event. On the 5th July the King and both Houses of Parliament were entertained at the Guildhall. Sir Thomas Alleyn, or Allen, was the son of William Allen of Hatfield Peveril, Essex; he served as Sheriff in the year 1654, and was elected to the mayoralty in 1660. He headed the commission appointed to try the regicides. He removed, on his election as Mayor, from Cheap to Aldgate Ward, and in 1679 to Bridge Without. At the restoration of Charles he went out to meet the King on his triumphal entry to the City. John Tatham was the author of the pageant arranged for the occasion. The Grocers' Company, to which the Mayor belonged, provided as their portion of the entertainment thirty persons as riders, and each a man in livery to attend the Mayor for the more magnificent reception of the King during his passage through the City.

Samuel Pepys, writing on the 5th December, 1662, speaks of walking to Guildhall in response to a summons from the Commissioners of Lieutenancy; "but the Committee," he adds, "sat not this morning." And on the 29th October, 1663, he describes a dinner in the building at which he was present:—"To Guildhall and meeting with Mr. Proby, Sir R. Ford's son, and Lieutenant-Colonel Baron, a

<sup>1</sup> Additional MSS., 26-683, fol. 53.



City commander. We went up and down to see the tables, where under every salt there was a bill of fare, and at the end of the table the persons proper for the table. Many were the tables, but none in the Hall but the Mayor's and the Lords of the Privy Council, that had napkins or knives, which was very strange. We went into the Buttry, and there stayed and talked, and then into the Hall again, and there wine was offered and they drunk, I only drinking some hypocras which do not break my vowe, it being, to the best of my present judgment, only a mixed compound drink, and not any wine. If I am mistaken, God forgive me ! but I hope and do think I am not. By and by met with Creed, and we with the others went within the several Courts, and there saw the tables prepared for the Ladies, and Judges, and Bishops : all great signs of a great dinner to come. By and by about one o'clock, before the Lord Mayor come into the Hall from the room where they were first led into, the Lord Chancellor (Archbishopp before him), with the Lords of the Council and other Bishoppes, and they to dinner. Anon comes the Lord Mayor, who went up to the Lords, and then to the other tables to bid wellcome and so all to dinner. I set near Proby, Baron, and Creed, at the merchant strangers' table, where ten good dishes to a messe with plenty of wine of all sorts of which I drunk none ; but it was very displeasing that we had no napkins, nor change of trenchers, and drank out of earthen pitchers and wooden dishes. It happened that after the Lords had half dined, come the French Ambassador up to the Lord's table, where he was to have sat ; he would not sit down or dine with the Lord Mayor, who was not yet come, nor have a table to himself, which was offered, but in a discontent went away again. After I had dined, I and Creed rose and went up and down the house, and up to the ladies' room, and there stayed gazing upon them. But though there were many and fine, both young and old, yet I could not discern one handsome face there, which was very strange. I expected musique, but there was none, but only trumpets and drums which displeased me. The dinner, it seems, is made by the Mayor and two Sheriffs for the time being, the Lord Mayor paying one half and they the other. And the whole, Proby says, is reckoned to come to about 7 or £800 at most."<sup>1</sup> There are entries in the records relative to the banquets given to William and Mary in the year 1692, when John Wildman, William Gore, and James Houblon, Aldermen, and Leonard Robinson, Chamberlain, were knighted, as also Rowland Aynsworth, William Scawen, Josiah Child, and John Foché received the honour of knighthood ;<sup>2</sup> likewise to the invitations given to the Prince and Princess Anne of Denmark on a later occasion, and again to the entertainment to the King after his return, when taking up his Freedom in Guildhall on Lord Mayor's Day.<sup>3</sup>

At the flight of James II to France, in 1688, owing to his unpopularity and the determination of the people to depose him from the throne and invite the Prince of Orange to lead the nation, there was an historic scene enacted at the Hall. The Parliamentary authorities assembled in the building, and at a meeting of the Court of Aldermen declared their confidence in the Prince. An address was prepared by the Court of Common Council, and a cordial welcome arranged for him upon his arrival. This shortly afterwards took place, and the congratulatory address was delivered by the Recorder.

<sup>1</sup> Pepy's "Diary," edition 1825, p. 256.

<sup>2</sup> Townsend's "Calendar of Knights," edition 1828.

<sup>3</sup> Journal xlviii, fol. 122.

In 1727, George II ascended the throne, and in accordance with precedent he accepted an invitation to a banquet at the Hall, accompanied by the Queen, the Princess Royal, and the Princess Caroline; they arrived in Cheapside in the afternoon, with a numerous attendance; the streets were protected by the militia, and the houses decorated in varied fashion, the Lord Mayor's procession on this occasion was witnessed by the Royal family from a balcony erected near Bow Church. The entertainment however appears to have been eclipsed by one given in the following reign by Sir Samuel Fludyer, Lord Mayor in the year 1761. This reception accorded to George III, was on the occasion of his marriage; there is an interesting engraving showing the interior of the Hall as arranged for the banquet, in the "Gentleman's Magazine," for the year mentioned, and a graphic account has been preserved of the various details of an entertainment of a more than usual magnificent character. The bill of fare contains some curious items; no less than 414 dishes were provided exclusive of the dessert. The Aldermen who formed the committee officiated at the upper table as waiters. The Lord Mayor as Chief Butler and his wife were in attendance on the Queen. This was a temporary arrangement only, for, soon after the proceedings had commenced, the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress and the Aldermen were directed to resume their places. The expenses of the day's entertainment were altogether as high as £6,898. 5s. 4d.

Of these receptions, there are none that can have a greater interest with the present generation than that accorded to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, on the occasion of her accession to the throne. For centuries it had been customary for the City Magnates to entertain the sovereign in princely fashion at the commencement of a new reign, and it appears to have ever been the effort on the part of all concerned to make the entertainment surpass, if such were possible, all that had been done before. Accordingly on Lord Mayor's Day, the 9th November, 1837, the Queen graciously accepted the invitation, the Corporation spared no labour or expense to receive her with a magnificence which should honour the great city as the host, and be acceptable to the Royal Lady who had deigned to be the guest. It was her first public progress through the capital, and the inhabitants generally vied with the Corporation in the exertions made to give her a hearty welcome. The Royal procession started from Buckingham Palace, passing, in its progress to Guildhall, through the streets lined on either side by thousands of spectators, while the houses were richly decorated with flags, evergreens, and other symbols of loyal welcome. It is on record that she was received with enthusiastic applause on all sides. Stopping for a time at Temple Bar, the Lord Mayor, then Mr. Alderman Cowan, presented, as usual, the Sword of State, which, on the good old principle that it could not be in better hands, Her Majesty returned to his lordship, in accordance with the traditions of ancient etiquette. They then proceeded to the Hall, which is said to have presented a brilliant scene. No less than 700 sat down to dinner. The Lord Mayor, when the banquet was over, received the dignity of a baronetcy, and the two Sheriffs, Moses Montefiore and George Carroll, the honour of knighthood. Her Majesty again visited the City in the year 1844, at the opening of the then new Royal Exchange. Upon this occasion, the City's address having been read and the building declared open, a sumptuous *déjeûner* was served in the underwriters' rooms. The Mayor of the year, Mr. Alderman William Magnay, was subsequently

made a baronet. The ever-to-be-remembered entertainment at Guildhall in 1851, in which, accompanied by the late Prince Consort, she graciously participated, has been previously referred to.



ENTERTAINMENT TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA, 9TH NOVEMBER, 1837.

(Showing the Great Hall, as it existed before the recent Restorations.)

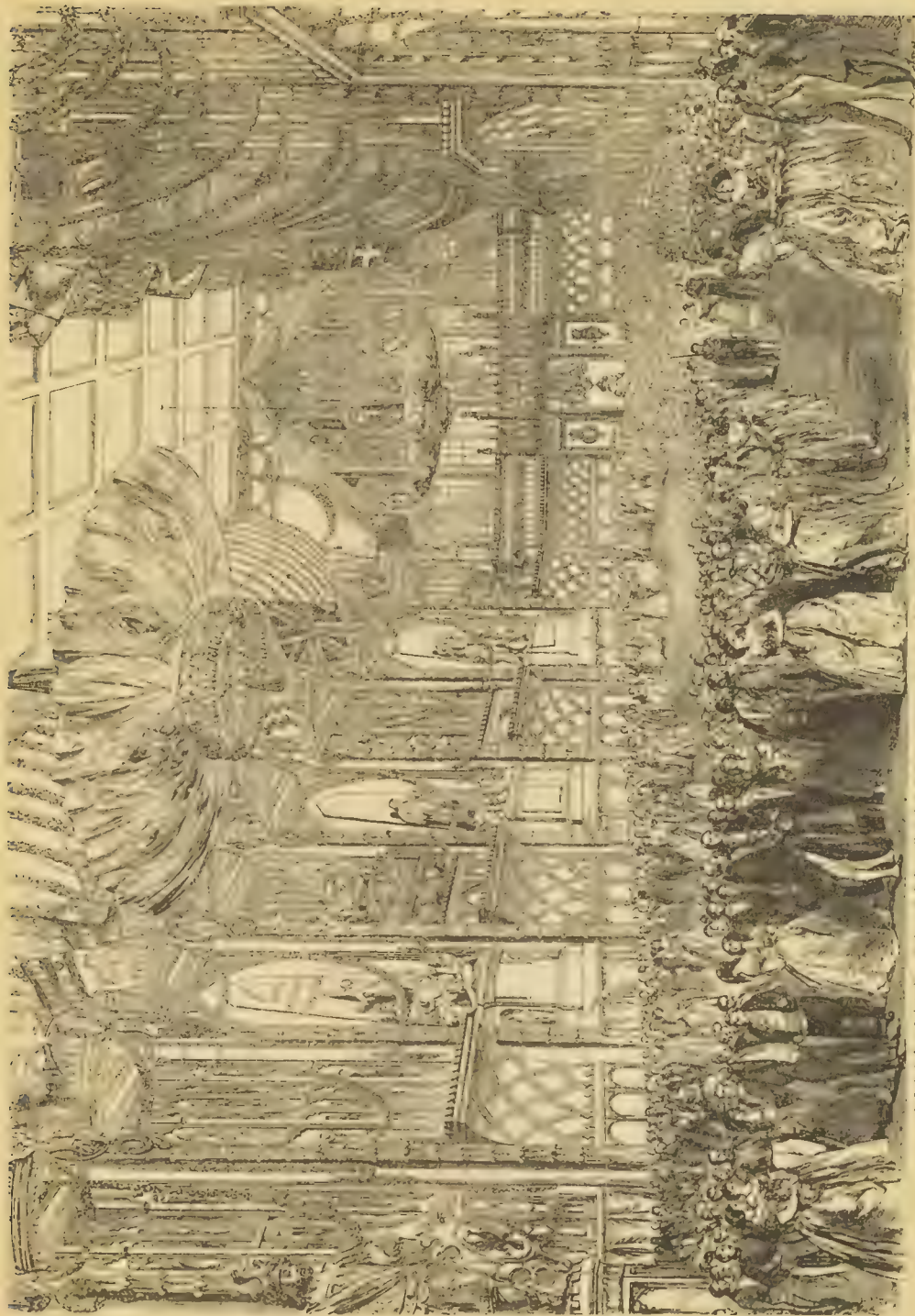


Since this visit of Her Majesty to the City, there have been many similar receptions at Guildhall on a scale ever magnificent and costly, in accordance with the object for which they were devised, and upholding upon each occasion those traditions of princely hospitality for which the Corporation of London is so widely known. Of recent gatherings, Royal, Political, and Social, the following may be chronicled as the more important. In the year 1838 the foreign ambassadors were received in honour of the Coronation of the Queen. In 1855 an entertainment was given to the Emperor and Empress of the French; in 1856 to H.M. the King of Sardinia; in 1863 to T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales on the occasion of their marriage; in 1866 occurred the presentation of the Freedom of the City to H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh. In the following year a reception took place to commemorate the visit of H.S.M. the Sultan of Turkey, and in the year 1871 H.R.H. Prince Arthur was presented with the Freedom of the City. In 1873, the New Library was inaugurated, and an entertainment given in honour of the Shah of Persia visiting this country. In 1874 there were two receptions, one to the Emperor of Russia, and one welcoming the Prince of Wales on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue of the Prince Consort on Holborn Viaduct. In 1875 the Freedom of the City was presented to the lamented Prince Leopold, and in the following year the Municipal Authorities of the United Kingdom and of the principal cities of Europe were received. In December a banquet and ball took place in celebration of the return of the Prince of Wales from his visit to India. In January, 1878, the Freedom of the City was presented to General Grant, to the late Lord Beaconsfield and to the Marquis of Salisbury. In the year 1880 the Corporation welcomed the King of the Hellenes, and in 1881 gave a *conversazione* on the occasion of a visit of the Medical Congress to London; and later on a welcome was accorded to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P.; in the month of July in the following year a reception was given to the leaders of the various English municipalities; in the mayoralty of Sir Robert Nicholas Fowler, M.P., the Freedom of the City was presented to Prince Albert Victor, the eldest son of the Heir-Apparent, upon the attainment of his majority; the ceremonial was succeeded by a banquet in the Guildhall. Interesting, however, as are these ceremonials from the associations they possess in connection with many an important crisis in the history of this country, none can better illustrate the vast progress that has been made by the English Nation than the gathering recently held within the walls of the ancient building; the sumptuous entertainment in honour of the Colonial and Indian visitors to this country will ever be remembered by those who had the opportunity of being present, and the assembling at the Guildhall of the City of London of so many representatives of lands for the most part colonised by the English people, and steadily progressing under the beneficent rule of Queen Victoria will provide a theme not to be neglected by the historian of the future.

Lord Mayor's  
Show.

The alterations at Guildhall in 1501, when the Kitchen and other conveniences were added, led to the Annual Banquet being given within the building, instead of as on former occasions in the Hall of one of the Livery Companies. It had long been customary at the installation of the Mayor for the Guild to which he might happen to belong, to provide a Pageant in his honour. These were usually composed and arranged by the City Laureate or Poet of the day, and there is a highly interesting collection of these quaint old compositions preserved in the Guildhall Library, ranging from the year 1591 to 1708; this includes solemnities and entertainments devised by George Peele, Thomas Middleton,





PROCESSION OF THE MAYOR, IN THE CITY OF LONDON



Anthony Munday, Thomas Heywood, Edmund Gayton, John Tatham, Thomas Jordan, Matthew Taubman, and Elkanah Settle. There is also an equally interesting series, no less than thirty-one in number, which includes certain compositions not possessed by the Corporation in the Gough collection at the Bodleian Library, Oxford. Among them are some that are said to have been unknown to the late Mr. Fairholt who made them a special study.

Malcolm has given an interesting description of a "Lord Mayor's Show," indeed, it is the first authentic account of the annual pageant which appears to have been published.<sup>1</sup> The details are extracted from the records of the Ironmongers' Company, and they are most interesting from the information they afford as to certain quaint old practices and customs which, in the course of many changes from year to year, have gradually become obsolete and forgotten. When Sir William Draper was elected to the mayoralty in 1566-7, the Ironmongers exerted themselves to their utmost ability in honouring the procession, as he being what is termed "free of the Company," forty-six persons, bachelors, were nominated, whose drapery was composed of satin cassocks, gowns, furred with "foynes," and crimson satin hoods, "twenty-eight wiflers." Forty-eight men bore wax torches, an ell in length, distinguished by red caps, an equal number were armed with javelins. Two woodmen carried clubs, hurled squibs, and a pageant—unfortunately only partially described—filled the measure. The expense of it was £18. Six boys, furnished by J. Tailor, from Westminster (possibly the Abbey Church), sung on, and pronounced speeches from, the stage.

Four partizans (small field pieces) and 160 chambers, procured from the Lieutenant of the Tower, were placed on the banks of the Thames and discharged at intervals. "The Foiste," or, in modern terms, the Company's Barge, had ten pairs of oars and masts, but whether they were furnished with sails or for the flags only doth not appear. However, the Queen's Arms flowed from the main top, and a flag of the "red crosse" from the fore top; to each of which were added long pendants and two "auncients for the pope or baste."<sup>2</sup> The last-mentioned flags were not displayed as at present, from fixed staffs, but held by men termed "Auncient bearers for the Foiste." This "vessel" had her master and gunner, "and squibbs sufficient for the tyme, with all things well paynted, and trymmed accordyngly with twenty pavases,<sup>3</sup> and two half barrels of gunpowder on board," so that with her guns and squibs she must have been a most formidable man-of-war. The music for the barge consisted of two trumpets, one drum, and sixteen basses, half were double, and one solitary flute. The men and musicians were habited in sarsnet cassocks, with scarves and night caps of Bruges satin, "drawen oute with white and redd." The Queen's serjeant trumpeters demanded no less than £18, for twenty-four trumpeters. In addition,<sup>4</sup> there were two long streamers of crimson taffety, twenty-four trumpet banners, for banners of the Lord Mayor's Arms, a banner of the Queen's Arms, ten and a half dozen of small pendants, 5 white banners, 11*d.* to Ric. Baker "for the devise and making of the paggions" (pageants). These pageants were carried by porters, who had hogsheads to rest them on. "The target paynter, Algate," had £3. 4*s.* 4*d.* "for paynting the skotcheons"; "Thomas Geyles, in Lombard Street, £5. 10*s.* for apparel lent for the child" in the pageant"; the

<sup>1</sup> "Londinium Redivivum," vol. ii, p. 42-3.

<sup>3</sup> Shields.

<sup>2</sup> The poop or stern.

<sup>4</sup> Herbert's "Livery Companies," vol. ii, p. 592.



same children had seven pair of gloves. "The good man of the 'Bell,' in Carter Lane, had 14s. 8d. for breakfast and for fire in the chamber where they were appareled"; the painter for "paynting of poses, speeches and songs that were spoken and songe by the children in the pageant," had 5s.; a dozen of linen cost 3s. 4d.; 8d. was paid for the children's drink at the "'Bell,' in Mynchyng Lane"; "Mr. Pele had xxxs. for his devise and paynes in the pageant"; Mr. Hille, ironmonger, had 3s. 4d. "for setting up a freme of timber for setting up the pageant on." This pageant (whatever it was) was set up in the hall after the way which has been described as common "Goodman Care the joiner has 10s. for the setting vppe the pageant in our hall." "The Captain of the foyst for his pains and trimmings had £10, the Company finding gunpowder and all other necessities for the 'feude joyes.'" "40 poor men of the Comp<sup>y</sup> wore cloth gowns of azure blue, with red sleeves of Bruges satin, 3 dozen minstrels walked with white staves, and the Bedel of the yeomanry had a blue cloth gown and hood of crimson satin. Total paid, £210. 8s. 10d."

There was a water procession with a foist, &c., "John Canelyshe, capteyne of the foyste, had for his paynes and trimmynge the same foyste £x. xs. 700lb. of gunpowder was used in the celebration. The whole cost was £33. 1s. 5d.

In the account of the foregoing pageant, there is mention of individuals taking part in the procession under a name which, belonging to a past age, is worth recording. The "Wifelers" referred to were people who cleared the way. Douce derives the name from "whiffle," a fife or small flute, the performers on which usually preceded armies or processions, and hence the name was ultimately applied to such officials. Among the prints collected by John Bagford<sup>1</sup> are the "Four Ages of Man," 1635, two of which have reference to characters always seen in a Lord Mayor's Show, and one is a pictorial illustration of the present note. "Childehood" is depicted as a "Hinch Boy," a "page or attendant, derived," says Blackstone, "from following the *haunch* of his master, and thence being called *hench boy* or *haunch boy*." Lucifer's hench boys are mentioned in Randolph's "Muses' Looking Glass," 1631, and in Sir William Davenant's comedy, "The Wits," 1665, Act i, Scene i. Sir Morglaythwack, "a humourous, rich old knight," exclaims:—

"Sir, I will match my Lord Mayor's horse make jockeys  
Of his *hench boys* and run 'em through Cheapside."

In the collection of prints and drawings illustrative of City pageants, bequeathed to the Society of Antiquaries of London by the late Mr. Fairholt, is a coloured plate representing one William Dewing, a whiffler to the Norwich Corporation. At Norwich the whiffers were four in number, and the office was one held in that city till the passing of the Municipal Reform Act in 1832. It had been held by this particular family for over two centuries, and mention is made in Kemp's "Nine Daies' Wonder" of them being employed when he danced in Norwich in 1599. Mr. Fairholt refers to him as the last of his race. In the dramatic literature of the 17th century, other references occur both to the hench boys and whiffers in addition to those already quoted; for example, in an old comedy entitled "The Roaring Girl," 1611, the former are said to have worn spangled feathers as part of their picturesque costume. Again, in the "City Match," printed in

<sup>1</sup> Harl. MS., 5944.



1639, "I looked the next Lord Mayor's day to see you o' the Livery, or one of the bachelor whiffers;" and in the "Country Captain," 1649, the Duke of Newcastle is made to say:—

"We have no exchange in the country, no plaies, no masques, no Lord Maior's daies, no balls, no galley foists. He that expects my favor in so high a degree as marriage must be none of my Lord Mayor's whiffers, he must be valiant in armes."

Another curious description of a Lord Mayor's Pageant is to be found in a time-worn little tract preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. It consists but of some three or four leaves, and is said to be unique. It is entitled "The Device of the Pageant borne before Woolstone Dixi, Lord Maior of the City of Lndon. An 1585. October 29, Imprinted at Lndon by Edward Alde. 1585. 4to,"—and at the end are the words "Dounne by George Peele, Maister of Arts in Oxford."<sup>1</sup>

As a typical illustration of these quaint compositions, which were for long annually composed in honour of the newly-elected Mayor, it is here given at length as transcribed from the copy in the Bodleian.<sup>2</sup>

THE DEVICE  
Of the Pageant borne  
before Woolston Dixi  
LORD Maior of the  
Citie of London.  
An. 1585.  
October 29.  
By G. Peele.

IMPRINTED  
at LONDON by  
Edward Alde.  
1585.

The Device of the Pageant born before the (Lord Maior).  
October 29, 1585.

A Speech spoken by him that rid on a *Luzerne*  
before the Pageant apparelled like a Moore.

From where y<sup>e</sup> Sun dooth settle in his wayn  
And yoakes his Horses to his fiery Carte,  
And in his way gives life to <sup>3</sup>Ceres Corne,  
Even from ye parching zone behold I come.  
A stranger strangely mounted as you see,  
Seated upon a lusty Luzerns back.  
And offer to your Honour (good my Lord)  
This Embleme thus in shewe significant.

<sup>1</sup> George Peele, Dramatist, admitted to his degree of M.A. at Oxford, 1579, resided at London, near to the theatres at Bankside. He was the author of the "Pageants," 1585 and 1591. He is said to have lived a dissolute life, and died about 1598. See *Biographia Dramatica*.

<sup>2</sup> Gough MS. Lond. [122.1.]

<sup>3</sup> The words underlined are in a different Type.

## HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE GUILDHALL.

Loe lovely London riche and fortunate,  
 Famed through the World for peace and happinesse :  
 Is hêr aduanc't and set in Highest seat,  
 Beautified throughly as her state requires.  
 First, over her a Princely Trophey standes  
 Of beaten golde : a rich and Royall Armes :  
 Wher-too this London ever more bequeathes,  
 Service of Honour and of Loyaltie.  
 Her props are well advised Maistrates,  
 That carefully attend her person still.  
 The honest Franklin and the Husband-man,  
 Layes downe his sacks of Corne at Londons fêet,  
 And bringes such presents as the Countrie yéaldes.  
 The ples-aunt Thames a swêet and daintye Nympe,  
 For Londons good conuayes with gentle streame,  
 And safe and easie pass-age what shée can,  
 And kéepe her leaping Fishes in her lappe.  
 The Souldier and the Saylor franckly bothe,  
 For Londons ayde are all in readines,  
 To Venture and to fight by Land and Sea.  
 And this thrise reverend honorable Dame,  
Science the sap of every common wealth.  
Surnam'd Mechanicall or Liberall  
 Is vowed to honour London with her skill,  
 And London by these freendes so happy made  
 First thankes her God the Author of her peace,  
 And next, with humble gesture as becomes,  
 In méeke and lowly manner doth she yéeld,  
 Her selfe her welthe with hart and willingnes.  
 Unto the person of her gracious Quéene,  
 Elizabeth renowned through the world,  
 Shall'd and anointed by the highest power,  
 The God of Kings that with his holy hand,  
 Hath long defended her and her England.  
 This now remains right honourable Lord,  
 That carefully you doo attend and kéepe,  
 This lovely Lady rich and beautifull,  
 The Juel wherwithall your soueraigne Quéene,  
 Hath put your honor louingly in trust :  
 That you may adde to Londons dignity,  
 And Londons dignity may adde to yours,  
 That woorthely you may be counted one,  
 Among the number of a many moe :  
 Careful léftenants, carefull Maistrates,  
 For Londons welfare and her worthines.

Dixi.

SPOKEN BY THE CHILDREN IN THE PAGEANT VIZ.

LONDON.

NEw Troye I hight whom Lud my Lord surnam'd,  
London the glory of the western side :  
 Throughout the world is lovely London fam'd,  
 So farre as any sea comes in with tide.

Whose peace and calme under her Royall Quéene :  
 Hath long bin such as like was neuer scène.  
 Then let me lue to caroll of her name,  
 that she may ener lue and neuer dye :  
 Her sacred shrine set in the house of fame.  
 consecrate to eternall memorie.  
 My péeless mistresse souveraigne of my peace :  
 Long may she ioy with honours great increase.

## MAGNANIMITY.

The Cuntry and the Thames affoord their aide, and carefull Maistrates their care attend :  
 All English harts are glad, and well appaide, in readines their London to defend.  
 Defend them Lord and these faire Nymphs likewise : that ener they may doo this sacrifice.

## LOYALTIE.

The greatest treasure that a Prince can have, dooth lovely London offer to her Queene,  
 Such loyaltie as like was neuer seen, and such as any English hart can crave.

## THE CUNTRY.

For Londons aide the Cuntry giues supplie, of needfull things, and store of euery graine :  
London giue thanks to Him that sits on hie, had neuer I owne less cause for to complaine,  
 And loue and serue the soueraigne of thy peace :  
 Under whose raigne thou hast this rich increase.

## THE THAMES.

With silver glide my pleasant streames doo runne, where leaping fishes play betwixt the shores :  
 This gracious good hath God and kinde begun, for Londons use with help of Sailes and Ores.  
London reioyce and giue thy God the praise :  
 For her whose highnes lengths thy happy daies.

## THE SOULDIER.

Armour of safe defence the Souldier hath,  
 So lovely London carefully attends ;  
 To kéep her sacred soueraigne from skathe,  
 That all this English land so well defends.  
 And so farre London bids her souldiers goe,  
 As well may serue to shéeld this land from woe.

## THE SAYLER.

The Sayler that in colde and quaking tide, the wrathfull stormes of Winters rage dooth bide :  
 With streamers stretcht, prepares his merry bark, for cuntries welth to set his men awark.  
 That Quéene and Country eazely may sée :  
 The Sea-man serves his Prince in his degré.

## SCIENCE.

For Londons safety and her happines, the Souldier and the Sayler may you sée :  
 All well prepar'd and put in redines, to doo such seruice as may fitting be, and Arte with them do ioyne and  
 they with me.  
London then ioy and let all ages knowe,  
 What duty to thy soueraigne thou doost owe.

## THE FIRST NYMPHE.

Thus with the morning Sun and euening starre, these holy lights shall burne, the chéerful flame  
 With swéetest odour shall perfume as farre as India stands in honor of her name.  
 Whose Trophy we adore with sacred rights :  
 With swéetest incense and with endless lights.

## HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE GUILDHALL.

## THE SECOND NYMPH.

So long as Sunne dooth lend the world his light, or any grasse dooth growe upon the ground :  
 With holy flame, our Torches shall burne bright, and same shall brute with golden trumpets sound.  
 The honour of her sacred regiment :  
 That claimes the honorable monument.

## THE THIRD NYMPH.

Our holy lights shall burne continually, to signifie our duties to her state :  
 Whose excellent and princely maiestye, approues it selfe to be moste fortunate.

## THE FOURTH NYMPHE.

Vertue shall witness of her worthiness, and fame shall register her princely déeds :  
 The world shall still pray for her happiness, from whome our peace and quietnes procédes.

## VERSES WRITTEN VNDER THE ARMES OF ENGLAND.

*Gallia victa dedit flores, invicta Leones,  
 Anglia, ius Belli in flore, Leone sumum :  
 O sic ô semper ferat Angliâ lœta triumphos,  
 Inclita gallorum Flore, Leone suo.  
 Doune by George Peele Maister of Artes in Oxford.*

The following words are written facing the *Title-page* :—

R. Farmer.

“This is probably the only copy remaining. It was given up to me as a *Favour*, at Mr. *West's* Auction  
 for 0 <sup>£</sup> 8 <sup>s.</sup> 0 <sup>d.</sup>.

I have seen a fine wooden Print of *Sir Wolstan at Christ's Hospital*.”

Sir Wolstan, in whose honour the above was written, was a member of the Skinners' Company. He was the youngest son of Thomas Dixie, of Catworth, Huntingdonshire, served as Master of his Company in the years 1573, 1576, 1580, 1588 and 1592. He was among those who were prominent in the building of Peterhouse College, Cambridge. He married, firstly, his master's daughter, Walkenden, and secondly, Agnes, daughter of Sir Christopher Draper. He died without issue at the age of 69, and was buried in St. Michael's, Bassishaw, in 1593. There is an excellent portrait of him in the Court Room of Christ's Hospital as President in 1592, of which foundation he was a liberal benefactor, as appears on a shield in the corner. The Knight is habited in his Lord Mayor's dress ; his features show considerable firmness of character, as he leans on a table holding a richly embroidered glove in his right hand ; he wears a venerable beard and hat of the period. Arms : *Azure*, a lion rampant, or, a chief of the last.



In the year 1687, Sir John Shorter, Goldsmith, was elected Lord Mayor ; his selection to the office was of an exceptional character, for it is stated by Strype that he never served the office of Sheriff in accordance with the usual custom, nor was he ever a Freeman of the City ; his appointment was distinctly due to the King, James II. The customary banquet took place in the Guildhall, and it was attended by the King and Queen,



the Queen Dowager, their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Denmark, and the Court, together the *Pope's Nuntio*, who was associated with other foreign visitors. A special song was composed for the occasion by Taubman, who for the third time appeared as Poet Laureate for the City. The composition, which has been printed, possesses about the same amount of merit as do the others of like character, with the exception that it is rather worse owing to the numerous ludicrous expressions of loyalty which it contains. He mentions in his description of the entertainment that at its conclusion their Majesties proceeded to Whitehall, and the Lord Mayor to Grocers' Hall, which, as on previous occasions, was selected as convenient and suitable for the seat of mayoralty.

Sir John Shorter did not long survive the honours which he enjoyed on this occasion. In the following year he was killed by a fall from his horse. The unfortunate accident occurred on the 4th September, 1688, and is thus recorded:—"On Tuesday last died the Lord Mayor, Sir John Shorter, the occasion of his distemper was his fall under Newgate which bruised him a little and put him into a fever. His lordship had a piece of helpless comfort brought him before he died, which was that a corn meter's place and that of the common . . . were fallen void the same day, which were worth to him, or rather his executors £3,000. Few days before died Bunnian, his Lordship's teacher, or chaplain, a man said to be gifted that way, though once a cobbler." Shorter had called on the keeper of Newgate on his return from proclaiming Bartholomew Fair, in accordance with the old custom, to partake of a "cool tankard of wine, nutmeg, and sugar." After he had drank, the lid of the vessel fell with so much force that the horse started and threw him.<sup>1</sup> He was the grandfather of Horace Walpole, and his name will always possess an historic interest. The practice above mentioned was discontinued in the mayoralty of Sir Matthew Wood in the year 1817.

On Lord Mayor's Day, 1692, William and Mary were entertained at the Hall. To this particular ceremonial subscriptions were invited, and among the names of the contributors appear many distinguished individuals:—Sir Robert Clayton, Sir Francis Child, Sir Richard Levett, Sir Humphrey Edwin, Sir Thomas Cooke, Sheriff; Sir John Fleet, Lord Mayor, and others. Some ten years later the last entertainment of the old style took place. It was in the reign of Queen Anne, and on the occasion of the election of Sir Samuel Dashwood, Vintner, to the mayoralty.

Elkanah Settle devised the pageant in the hope of reviving interest in a festival which had been held for many years. Sir Samuel had been Master of his Company in the year 1684, elected Alderman of Aldgate Ward in 1688, served the office of Sheriff in 1683, and was elected Lord Mayor in the year 1702. He became President of Bethlehem Hospital in 1703, and Member of Parliament for the City in the year 1686. He married Anne, the daughter of John Smith, of Tidworth, and had issue several children. By the marriage of his daughter Sarah with Fulke Greville, fifth Lord Brooke, he became ancestor of the Earls of Warwick and many other illustrious noblemen. The pageant displayed by the Vintners on the occasion of his election as Lord Mayor, included a representation of St. Martin,



<sup>1</sup> Vide "Ellis Correspondence," vol. ii, p. 161.

the patron saint, mounted "on a stately white steed, richly plumed and caparisoned," the Saint splendidly armed *cap-à-pie*, having a large mantle or scarf of scarlet, followed by several cripples and beggars supplicating his charity; and on arriving in St. Paul's Churchyard, making a stand to prevent the cries of the mendicants, the Saint severed his scarf with his sword, and distributed it among them. Sir Samuel died the 14th September, 1705, aged 63, and was buried in St. Botolph's Church, Bishopsgate.<sup>1</sup> Arms *argent* on a fess, double cotised *gu.*, three Griffins' heads erased *or*.

Elkanah Settle was the last of the civic bards. The annual compositions for the pageants or shows commenced in the year 1691, and continued until the year 1708, at which year the printed descriptions end. Settle was attached to the Court of Charles II, and wrote indifferent plays and so-called poems. His last works were in connection with the amusements at Bartholomew Fair. He had been accustomed to write the annual panegyrics on the Lord Mayors, and the verses usually spoken in the pageants. At his death the occupation of a City poet ceased. A pamphlet is preserved containing his compositions, with a spirited engraving illustrative of the pageants in the year 1698, on the occasion of the election of Sir Francis Child to the mayoralty, when the proceedings were organised in honour of the Goldsmiths' Company to which Sir Francis belonged.

At these inauguration festivals, among the amusements provided for the guests were the gambols and frolics of the Jester, the City Laureate, or the Lord Mayor's Fool. He, in accordance with the customs of the time, was a personage whose presence was as necessary at such entertainments as it was in the household of Royalty. The professional jester was a recognised inmate with wealthy families. He possessed a certain distinction in his particular sphere. Among the coarse methods of enjoyment fashionable at the time was a favourite but ridiculous performance; at a Mayor's banquet, a jester was expected to be in readiness to leap, without changing his motley garb, into a huge bowl of custard. This at such feasts was considered an attractive item in the programme and gave satisfaction to the guests. As "quaking custards" of enormous size, they are spoken of by the dramatic writers of the Elizabethan age, and of a still later time; Shakespeare, for example, in "All's Well that ends Well":—

"Like him that leaped into the custard."

Act ii, Scene v.

And again, Ben Jonson, who, in the year 1628, was appointed "Chronologer" to the City in the place of Thomas Middleton, deceased:—

"He may perchance, in tail of a Sheriff's dinner  
Skip with a rhyme on the table, from New-nothing  
And take his Almain leap into a custard  
Shall make my Lady Mayoress and her sisters  
Laugh all their hoods over their shoulders."

"The Devil's an Ass," Act i, Scene i.

<sup>1</sup> "Biographical Notices of some Eminent Members of the Vintners' Company," by Thomas Milbourn. "Transactions London and Middlesex Archaeological Society," vol. iii, p. 463.

In another old play, viz., one by Glassthorpe :—

“I'll write the City Annals  
In metre, which shall far surpass Sir Guy  
Of Warwick's history, or John Stows' upon  
The Custard with the four and twenty nooks  
At my Lord Mayor's Feast.”

“Wit in a Constable.”

It is not very clear as to what is intended by the “four and twenty nooks,” unless they are supposed to signify in some unknown manner, the four and twenty Wards into which the City was at one time divided. In the same quaint old composition, reference is made to the practice among the guests of taking away with them, at the conclusion of the feast, a portion of the said custard for the edification of their families at home. A lady, for example, ridicules the custom in the following lines addressed to her uncle :—

“Nor shall you Sir, as 'tis a frequent custom  
'Cause you're a worthy Alderman of a Ward  
Feed me with custard and perpetual white broth  
Sent from the Lord Mayor's Feast, and kept ten days  
Till a new dinner from the Common Hall  
Supply the large defect.”

With such amusements as these, accompanied by songs of but little, if any, merit, and of a character both coarse and ludicrous, our forefathers of but a few generations since were wont to disport themselves. With the spread of education, and rapid advances recently made in every department of Art, Science and Literature, many changes have been effected in the various arrangements connected with the annual banquet. Invitations are accepted by the highest and noblest in the land. The State, the Law, the Church, the Arts and Sciences, are well represented by their respective leaders, and the entertainments and amusements provided are now all of a highly refined and intellectual character.

If the walls of the venerable building have at times resounded with shouts of revelry and mirth, they have, on more than one occasion, been silent witnesses to scenes of sorrow and cruel persecution. Within their precincts, decisions have been given which must for ever cast a shadow over many a page of English history. Trials resulting in unwarrantable sentences have taken place which a more enlightened age can but now look back upon with mingled feelings of pain and sorrow. Several might be quoted, but a few of the more important are sufficient for the purpose as affording illustrations of the association between them and other historical traditions of the building.

State and  
other Trials.

One of the earliest trials on record relates to a disturbance in the fourteenth century between the Poulterers and Fishmongers, in the course of which the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, while endeavouring to suppress the riot, were assaulted. The event occurred in the year 1340, 14 Edward III. The chief of the ringleaders were Thomas Haunsart and John le Brewere, the former having endeavoured to strike the Lord Mayor, Andrew Aubrey, with drawn sword, and the latter who had succeeded in wounding one of the City Serjeants so greatly that his life was despaired of; both were apprehended and brought for trial at Guildhall. They were at once condemned to death, and forthwith beheaded in Cheapside. The Lord Mayor, on the circumstance being known to the King,

received a congratulatory letter commending the action so promptly taken, and charging him at the same time, should similar riots occur or there be any attempt to disturb the peace of the citizens generally, that the offenders should be committed to prison until the Royal pleasure should be obtained concerning them. A copy of the letter from the King to Andrew Aubrey, Citizen and Grocer, is preserved among the records.<sup>1</sup> He was held in high respect by his brother citizens, being elected Lord Mayor two years in succession.

In the year 1441, Maister Roger and Master Thomas were tried in the Hall for treason and sorcery, and on the 18th November, in the same year, Roger Bollingbrook was arraigned for conspiring against the person of Henry VI. According to the English Chronicle he was "by xii men of Londoun founde guilty." In the same record, it is stated that "Lord Say was brought out of the Tour unto Guyldhalle to be tried, Saturday, July 4, 1450."

In the year 1547, 38 Henry VIII, Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, was tried in the Hall for high treason, before Commissioners of Oyer and Terminer. He had previously in company with his father, the Duke of Norfolk, been committed to the Tower, viz., in December, 1546; but on the 13th January in the following year, he was arraigned at Guildhall, before the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Mayor and the Commissioners. Being a Commoner and not a Parliament Lord, he was put before a jury of Norfolk men, consisting of nine Knights and three Esquires. As a man of deep understanding, of sharp wit, and unflinching courage, he made a bold and powerful yet unavailing defence. He was convicted of treason, and sentenced to death. On the 19th, he was beheaded on Tower Hill, in the 30th year of his age. He was buried in Tower Street, thence removed to Framlingham, Suffolk, his reputed birthplace, where his second son, the Earl of Northampton, erected a monument to his memory. It is an interesting historical fact that his father escaped a similar fate owing to quite an accidental circumstance. On the 27th January, the Bill of Attainder was framed, and a warrant (notwithstanding that he had made his submission on the 12th, and the fact of his various meritorious services) was sent to the Lieutenant of the Tower to behead the Duke of Norfolk the next morning, but, the King dying in the night, the Lieutenant could not act on the warrant, and it was likewise thought inexpedient to commence the reign of Edward VI with such an objectionable event. He therefore very luckily escaped his impending fate. Surrey's untimely death is ever to be regretted, for he was a man of great talent and high courage, and with many other noble qualities. He was one of the earliest improvers in the art of versification, and first introduced the sonnet and blank verse into use in England. His poems were published in 1537, 1565, and 1574.

Possibly the saddest of all in the list that could be given, is the fate of one that has ever commanded the sympathies of her countrymen, viz., that of Lady Jane Grey. Her husband, the Lord Guildford Dudley, together with that of the ill-fated Cranmer, all of whom were tried and sentenced at the Hall, and for what were then considered treasonable actions. Lady Jane Grey was the eldest daughter of Henry Grey, Marquis of Dorset, Duke of Suffolk. Her mother was Lady Frances Brandon, daughter and one of the co-heirs of Charles Brandon, the Duke, by Mary his wife, Queen of France, younger

<sup>1</sup> Letter Book F, fol. 45.



daughter of Henry VII. At the time when Edward VI, "by long sickness, began to appear more feeble and weak," a marriage was solemnized between Lord Guildford Dudley, the fourth son of the Duke of Northumberland, and the Lady Jane, and then her ambitious father-in-law, with the consent of the council, nobility, chief lawyers, the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London, prevailed upon the young king to appoint Lady Jane as his successor to the crown, passing over his sisters, Mary and Elizabeth. He soon afterwards deceased at the early age of sixteen. Between him and Lady Jane there was little difference in age.

Shortly after his decease, Lady Jane reluctantly consented to be proclaimed Queen in the City of London and other places. Mary forthwith asserted her rights, and what happened is well-known, the kingdom espoused her cause, and the result was that Northumberland with his sons were imprisoned in the Tower, and within a month he was beheaded. Lady Jane and her husband, at that time within the Tower, together with Archbishop Cranmer, and others, were conveyed to Guildhall, convicted of high treason and sentenced to death by one Judge Morgan, who subsequently died raving mad from the recollections which ever haunted him having affected his mind. On the 12th February, 1554, Lady Jane was beheaded on Tower Green, and likewise her husband, the Lord Guildford Dudley. Many others were executed at this crisis, Cranmer excepted; arraigned at the Guildhall for treason; he was, however, pardoned simply to be sent to Oxford, where as a martyr he suffered at the stake.

The trial and condemnation of Lady Jane Grey and her husband, Lord Guildford Dudley, is thus recorded in the *Chronicles of the Grey Friars*, under the year 1553:—"Thys yere the xij day of Novembre the Byshoppe of Cantorbery Thomas Creme and Lady Jane that wolde a bene Qwene and iij of the Dudleyes condemyd at the yelde-halle for hye-tresone." The Bishop here referred to was the well-known Cranmer, and the two Dudleys who were condemned in addition to Lord Guildford were Lord Ambrose and Lord Harry. A further incident in connection with these troublous times occurs in the following year, viz., on "the furst day of Februarij the Qwenes Grace came [in] hare owne persone unto the yelde-halle of Londone and showyd hare mynde unto the mayer, aldermen and the hole crafttes of London (in) hare owne persone, with hare cepter in hare honde in tokyn of love and pes, and wente home agayne by watter at the Crane in the ventre."

Among the celebrated trials which may be mentioned as having taken place at Guildhall, is that of Henry Peckham and John Daniell, in the year 1556. These individuals were associated with twelve others in what is called Dudley's conspiracy, of which a full and interesting account has been printed by Mr. J. Bruce, F.S.A., in the "*Verney Papers*,"<sup>1</sup> published by the Camden Society in 1853. Henry Peckham was a younger son of Sir Edmund Peckham, Cofferer of the Queen's Household, Treasurer of the Mint, and a Privy Councillor. His brother, Sir Robert Peckham, had married Elizabeth, sister to John, Lord Bray, and aunt to Edmund and Francis Verney; and Lord Bray's sister Dorothy, was the wife of Edmund, Lord Chandos, whose sister, Catharine Brydges, was the wife of Edward, Lord Dudley, and sister-in-law to Henry Dudley, from whom the conspiracy took its name, Lord Bray and the Verneys were compromised in the plot. Henry Peckham had recently sat in Parliament for the Borough of Chipping Wycombe.

<sup>1</sup> "*The Verney Papers*." Camden Society's Publications, pp. 38-75.

"His conduct," writes Mr. Bruce, "was infamous, for though one of the most busy of the conspirators, he endeavoured to procure favour by betraying his associates, a favour which, notwithstanding his father's position at Court, was sternly refused." Henry Peckham and John Daniell were with others committed to the Tower on the 18th March, 1556, where they remained until the 7th May, when they were taken to Guildhall and tried for treason, found guilty and executed on Tower Hill, either on the 7th or 8th July. Machyn, the Chronicler of the time, says on the former day:—"1556. The vii day of July was hangyd on a galaus on Towre-hylle for tresun agaynst the quen on Master Hare Peckham, and the oder Master John Daneell and after cutt downe and heded, and ther hedes cared unto Londune bryge, and ther sett up, and ther bodys bered at Allalows-barkyng." In the confession of John Daniell, in the State Paper Office, he implores to be released from his horrible dungeon in the Tower, where he lived among newts and spiders, afflicted with the stone, etc. His prison was in the Broad Arrow Tower, where the name JOHN DANIELL, and the date 1556, carved on the stone wall by his own hand are still to be seen.<sup>1</sup>

In the time of the troublous faction between the Houses of York and Lancaster, in the reign of Henry VI, Sir Thomas Oldgrave or Oulegreve, son of William Oldgrave of Knottysford, in Cheshire, Lord Mayor in the year 1467, was accused of treason. It was during his mayoralty that Dame Margaret, sister to the king, rode through the City on her way to the sea-side, to pass into Flanders, there to be married to Charles, Duke of Burgundy. After her departure, Sir Thomas Cooke, Lord Mayor in 1462, who had been associated with Jack Cade in the well-known rebellion of 1450, was impeached of high treason in the year 1467, at the instance of one Hawkins; he too was tried at Guildhall, but acquitted; on his acquittal he was sent to the Bread Street Compter, and from thence to the King's Bench, and was there kept until he paid £8,000 to the King and £800 to the Queen.<sup>2</sup>



According to Fabyan the Chronicler, "Sir Thomas was brought into Guildhall and there arraigned of the said Treason, and after that committed to the Comptore in Bread Street and from thence to the King's Bench in Southwarke. In which time and season he lost much good, for both his places in the country and also in London were under ye guiding of the said Lord Rivers' servants, and of Sir John Fog, the Under-Treasurer: the which spoiled and destroyed much things: and over that much of his jewels and plate, with great substance of ye merchandise, as cloth of silk and clothes of arras, were discovered by such persons as he had betaken the said goods to kepe, and came to the Treasurers hands, which to the said Sir Thomas was a great enemy, and finally, after many persecutions and losses, was compelled as for fine to pay unto the King £8,000, and after he was thus agreed and was at large, for the King's interest, he was then in new trouble against the Queene, which demanded as her right for every £1,000 paid unto the King by way of fine 100 marks, to which he was faine to agree besides many good gifts which he gave to his Council."

<sup>1</sup> Bayley's "History of the Tower," vol. i, p. 207.

<sup>2</sup> See paper entitled "Some Particulars of Alderman Philip Malpas, and Alderman Sir Thomas Cooke, K.B." Ancestors of Sir Francis Bacon (Lord Bacon), and Robert Cecil (first Earl of Salisbury), by B. Brogden Orridge, F.G.S., "Transactions London and Middlesex Archaeological Society," vol. iii, p. 285.

On 16th July, 1509, 1 Henry VIII, Edmund Dudley, Esq., was tried at Guildhall for treason against the King, and found guilty. He was associated with Sir Thomas Empson in the plot, the latter being tried at Northampton, and likewise convicted. Empson had risen from small beginnings, but noted for his wit and industry, had gained thereby a position in the Councils of Henry VII, and from this circumstance became a useful instrument in raising money for his royal patron. Edmund Dudley, a gentleman by birth and education, was Speaker of the House of Parliament in the same reign. For the above offence they were committed to the Tower, and though doubts existed as to their guilt, Henry VII, in response to general clamour, and thinking to please the citizens, authorised their execution. The attain against Dudley was reversed by Parliament in the year 1533, 5 Henry VIII.

In the same reign occurred the martyrdom of the unfortunate and accomplished Anne Askew. Sir Martin Bowes was Lord Mayor at the time of her first examination at Saddlers' Hall, by the Inquisitor, Christopher Dare, in March, 1546. The second enquiry was before Sir Martin, who sent her to prison, refusing sureties or bail. On subsequent application, he, however, consented to release her, if it met with the approval of the Lord Chancellor. The Lord Mayor made application to this functionary and to Bishop Bonner, and eventually she was brought again to Guildhall, and partially recanting at St. Paul's, was, for a while, released; later on there were further requirements to which she declined to accede. She was accordingly sent to Greenwich to be examined before the King, and thence to Newgate; again to Guildhall, where she was condemned by the Lord Chancellor; next to the sign of the Crown, where the Bishops, together with one Master Rich, endeavoured to persuade her to recant, but refusing, she was sent to the Tower and submitted to the rack. Sir Anthony Knyvett was then Lieutenant, and he was present at the inhuman punishment; he was unwilling, however, to add more than possible to the sufferings of the unhappy woman, so Lord Chancellor Wriothesley and Master Rich, already mentioned, are said to have taken off their gowns in order the better to ply the rack with their own hands. So intense had been her sufferings, that when brought to the stake at Smithfield, either in June or July, for historians differ, she had to be conveyed in a chair. Associated with her were Nicholas Beleman, a priest, from Shropshire; John Adams, a tailor; and one, John Lacels, a member of King Henry's Court. The Lord Mayor was present on the Bench erected under St. Bartholomew's Church, together with the aged Earl of Bedford, and others. Upon a final refusal to recant, the Lord Mayor ordered the fire to be lighted, calling out with raised voice, "Fiat Justitia." This unfortunate young woman, daughter of Sir William Askew, wife of one Master Kyme, and mother of two children, was but twenty-five years of age at the time. The presence of the high dignitaries mentioned, together with that of the civil officials, is a striking illustration of the intolerance and bigotry which at this time prevailed.

In that interesting old Chronicle the Diary of Henry Machyn, Citizen and Merchant Taylor, there appears under the years 1550-1, the following reference to certain proceedings before the tribunal at Guildhall which are quaintly stated: "The xiiij. day of Marche was raynyd at the yelde-halle a C (hundred) mareners for robyng on the see, and the captayne, behyng a Skott, was cared to Nugate the sam day, and serten cast (condemned). In 1552, the vij. day of Juin the duke of Northumberland and dyvers of the kynges consell



sat at yeld-hall [to hear] certen causys, and toke up my lord mayre and [his] brodurne for vetell, because he lokyd not to yt, and for sellyng of the sam, and odur causys. In 1559 the furst day of Desember, was raynyd at the Geld hall, master Grymston, captayn."

Sir Nicholas Throckmorton was tried at Guildhall in April, 1554, for treason against the Queen. Sir Nicholas, the son of a Papist, had distinguished himself at the battle of Pinkie, during the reign of young Edward VI, and had been honoured with knighthood by him in consequence. He was accused of complicity in Wyatt's rebellion, but without just reason, and shortly after the death of the latter, he was arraigned for participation in a conspiracy to kill Queen Mary. The Commissioners appointed at his trial included the Lord Mayor, Sir Thomas White, an ancestor of Cromwell and the founder of St. John's College, Oxford; the Earl of Shrewsbury; the Earl of Derby; Sir Thomas Bromley, Lord Chief Justice; Nicholas Hare, Master of the Rolls; Sir Francis Englefield, Master of the Court of Wards and Liberties; Sir R. Southwell, Privy Councillor; Sir Roger Cholmeley; Sir William Porteman, Justice of the King's Bench; Sir Edward Saunders, Justice of the Common Pleas; Master Stamford and Master Dyer, Serjeants; Master Edward Griffin, Attorney General; Master Sendall and Peter Tichborne, Clerks of the Crown. After the hearing of the case, the details of which are among the most curious upon record, and a spirited defence having been made by himself, the Jury found him "Not Guilty," and on the presentation of their verdict, an incident, almost without precedent, occurred. The distinguished members of the Court, many of them being the most able and talented men of the time, were so dissatisfied with the verdict that they committed the Jury to prison. They were sent to the Fleet, four were released on their submission as offenders, three were adjudged to pay two thousand pounds apiece, and the others each one thousand marks, five others were discharged on payment of a fine of two hundred and twenty pounds each, and the other three pleading inability to pay so large an amount, upon their contribution of sixty pounds apiece were set at liberty.

In the year 1570 a singular trial took place at the Guildhall. It possesses an historic interest from the illustration it affords of the inhuman cruelties with which the citizens were at this time familiar, and content to see practised when treasonable and religious matters were in question. One, John Felton, was tried, on the 8th August, in the above year, his offence being high treason against the Queen, and the setting up of a traitorous bull on the Bishop of London's gate. Sentenced to execution at Guildhall, he was sent to Newgate, and the subsequent details connected with his death are painfully recorded in the literature of the time.<sup>1</sup> He wore a satin doublet and a gown of grograin, was laid upon a hurdle and drawn along the Old Bailey to St. Paul's Church Yard, where he recited the "De Profundis." Loosed from the hurdle by two serjeants, he was stripped by the hangman, then standing and quivering and shaking with fear, he said, "Ah, ah, Lord, have mercy upon me."<sup>2</sup> He was next led by the hangman to the ladder. Sheriff Beecher commanding silence, willed Master Christopher, the Secondary of the Comptor in the Poultry, to publish a proclamation, &c. Felton, having repeated the 51st Psalm, in Latin, stepped up the ladder, turned his face

<sup>1</sup> Hollingshead's "State Trials," vol. i, p. 869.

<sup>2</sup> See the "End and Confession of John Felton, &c., &c.," by J. Partridge. Imprinted at London, by Richard Iohnes and Thomas Colwell, 1570.







towards the Bishop's Gate and addressed the people. While praying he was turned off the ladder, and after hanging there six turns was cut down and carried to the block, his head was then smitten off and held up, whereat the people shouted, with a wish that all traitors were so served. He was then quartered, sent to Newgate to be parboiled, and then his remains again exposed to public view. The record, after describing the horrible transaction, concludes with "God Save the Queen."

In the reign of Elizabeth, a Portuguese Jew—one Dr. Roger Lopez, Physician to the Queen—was tried at the Hall for treasonable intentions against her. He was arraigned before the Lord Mayor, Robert, Earl of Essex, and Charles, Lord Howard.<sup>1</sup> A few years later, and in the reign of James I, occurred the Gunpowder Plot, and of those who were chiefly associated with that conspiracy, we find the Jesuit, Henry Garnet, as having been tried at Guildhall. He appeared 28th March, 1606, 4 James I, before the Lord Mayor, Sir Leonard Halliday, the Earls of Nottingham, Suffolk, Worcester, Northampton, and Salisbury. Sir John Popham, Lord Chief Justice of England, Sir Christopher Yelverton, Knt., one of His Majesties Judges and the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer. He was found guilty and sentenced to death. The execution took place on the 3rd May, upon a scaffold, erected at the west end of St. Paul's Church, the Deans of St. Paul's and Winchester being present, likewise the Recorder of London. Granger describes him as a man of learning, a Professor of Philosophy and Hebrew in the Italian College at Rome, and skilled in mathematics.<sup>2</sup> It does not appear to have been ever proved that he was very active in the conspiracy, and he declared, just prior to his execution, that he was only privy to it, and concealed what was revealed to him in confession.

In the same reign occurred the celebrated trial of Richard Weston, for the murder of Sir Thomas Overbury. This was before the Lord Mayor of the year, Sir Thomas Hayes, Lord Chief Justice Coke, Justices Crook, Dodderidge, Haughton, Serjeant Crew, and Sir Henry Montague, Recorder. When charged, the indictment was to the effect that Richard Weston procured and administered poison to Sir Thomas Overbury, His Majesty's prisoner in the Tower. Sentenced to die, he still resisted all temptations to deny any of his previous confessions, and was executed at Tyburn by hanging. He had been originally an apothecary, but subsequently rose to the position of Under-Keeper to Sir Jervis Elwes, the new Lieutenant of the Tower. Sir Thomas Overbury had been killed by poison, and Sir Jervis was an accomplice with Weston in the crime. Sir Jervis Elwes was tried in the Hall on the 16th November, 13 James I, 1615, and found guilty. He was executed on Tower Hill. His estate, worth £1,000 a year and more, was given by the King to Lord Pembroke, who, to his lasting honour, generously bestowed it on the widow and children. Sir Thomas Monson was likewise an accomplice. He underwent one day's trial at the Hall. He pleaded innocence, and the evidence was so far in his favour that he was ultimately set at liberty. The celebrated Nonconformist Minister, Richard Baxter, was tried in the Hall before Lord Chief Justice Jeffreys, on 30th May, 1685. He was accused of writing a work, which he had entitled "A Paraphrase upon the New Testament." He was fined £500, and ordered to give security for his good behaviour for seven years. The fine was remitted. For a time he resided within the precincts of the

<sup>1</sup> "Domestic State Papers." Elizabeth. Vol. cclxviii, No 16.

<sup>2</sup> Granger's "Biographical History of England." Vol. i, p. 380.



King's Bench Prison, but on the 28th February following his trial, he removed to a house in Charterhouse Yard, where he preached to a separate congregation, without interruption, as long as he lived. His death occurred after the Revolution, viz., on 8th December, 1691.

In addition to this list, one imperfect, but interesting from its association with the varied traditions belonging to the building, there is another with which I may close this section, viz., one recorded as follows in the Diary of Samuel Pepys, on the 1st December, 1663. It was concerning the insurance of a ship, and the diarist says:—"It was pleasant to see what mad sort of testimonys the seamen did give, and could not be got to speak in order, and then their terms—such as the judge could not understand; and to hear how sillily the counsel and judge would speak as to the terms necessary in the matter, would make one laugh; and, above all, a Frenchman that was forced to speak in French, and took an English oath he did not understand, and had an interpreter sworn to tell us what he said, which was the best testimony of all."

Great Fire  
of 1666.

The edifice in which these historic scenes were enacted was doomed to destruction in the Great Fire of 1666. The injury was partial only, for although a large amount of irreparable damage was done, the old Gothic walls were left standing; portions are still visible, and more were exposed when the old buildings were pulled down for the erection of the new Council Chamber. A considerable amount of the old frontage yet remains concealed behind the present Saracenic facing. This unsightly excrescence has well served its purpose, inasmuch as it has protected the ancient walls from injury by a past generation, who felt but little interest in the public buildings of the City. In the present more enterprising age, when, with a praiseworthy determination, the Corporation are by degrees developing a magnificent series of new buildings more suited to the requirements of its business, and by utilising and repairing what remains of interest in the older building are so gradually improving the whole, that the Guildhall of the future, with its numerous offices, will, when it is completed, form a series of buildings that will bear comparison with similar structures on the Continent; and it is at the same time an interesting reflection to consider that when the present façade comes down there will be exposed to view the Gothic work of the 15th century, with its architectural features comparatively uninjured, and but little altered from the condition they were in generations ago, in the days of the Plantagenets, the Tudors and the Stuarts.

The annexed fac-simile of a section of Ogilby's Map of London, defines the various changes brought about with respect to Guildhall and its vicinity in consequence of the Fire of 1666. It may be remarked that, so far as the Hall itself was concerned, the main walls were left standing, although the various offices and apartments in which the municipal business was conducted were all destroyed. Some reference to this historical event is admissible before entering upon what was subsequently done as to the general restoration of the structure and its adjoining buildings. There are but few contemporary descriptions of the Fire as recorded by spectators; some of these are, however, of interest, inasmuch as they not only detail the impression made on the mind of the observer at the time, but they give many curious references to the buildings destroyed, omitting in some cases any mention of Guildhall. Among the Gough collections at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, are three very curious letters from an anonymous writer in the Middle Temple, dated September 24th, 29th, and October 3rd,



1666, respectively. Without printing them in full, some interesting details are here given. The Fire commenced on Sunday, 2nd September, at 1 o'clock in the morning, and it had "gotten some strength ere discovered, yet reasonably enough to allow a merchant who dwelt next door to remove all his goods," that it soon became so powerful as "to despise ye use of buckets, and was too advantageously seated among narrow streets to be assaulted by engines." 'Twas therefore proposed to ye Lord Mayor, who came before three o'clock, that it would be necessary to pull down some houses to prevent its spreading." It appears from a somewhat coarse expression in the MS, that he would do nothing, but ridiculed the idea. The writer proceeds to describe its increase in power, "how by eight o'clock twas gotten by ye bridge, and there dividing, left enough to burn down all that had been ere of the last great fire, and with ye main body pressed forward into Thames Street. About 7 o'clock that morning a little stable in Horsehoe Alley, near Winchester Stairs, in Southwark, was a fire (supposed by a spark) but was stopd within two hours by ye pulling down a third house after two had been burnt. I heard nothing of all this till 9 o'clock, and then running down into ye Temple Garden, saw ye smoak of both and ye flames of ye former. I was not satisfied at this distance, but going with some others into ye street, found it full of people and those (full) of fears, for twas already imagined the design of ye *French and Dutch* in revenge of what our Forces had done lately at *Brandaris*, upon the island of *Schelling*, and the riding of an hot headed fellow through ye street (with more speed and fear than wit) crying Arm, Arm, had frightened most of the people out of ye churches." At 10 o'clock our author was in Gracechurch Street where after dinner he "took boat and landed at Pauls Wharf, stopped in Canning Street by ye abundance of *goods and carts* with which twas filled. Here met my Lord Mayor on horseback, with a few attendants, looking like one frightened out of his wits." Next morning he tells us how Lombard Street was consumed, that the "Duke of Monmouth, with several of ye Guard, sat there on horseback." "The Duke of York was in another part of the City. We came home at 5 o'clock, and seeing little probability in a desired stop, three of us (of this house) packed up our books and put them aboard a barge." In his second letter he describes at length the damage done, that within the walls but 13 Parish Churches remained, and without that three only were consumed, viz., St. Sepulchres, St. Brides and Bridewell Chapel. "All," he says, "were so terribly torn and shattered that nothing is left but pieces of walls, others have some pillars standing." "The Halls are all burnt except Ironmongers, Leathersellers, Glovers Hall, and a few others." He speaks strongly of the losses of the booksellers, in St. Paul's Church Yard, owing, in many cases, to the fact that they, in hopes of saving their stock, stored it in St. Faith's and other of the vaults beneath the Cathedral of St. Paul's. He tells us the general opinion as to the conduct of the Lord Mayor, how everyone condemned him as "a person delighting more in drinking and dancing than is necessary for such a magnate. His authority and that of ye Aldermen was little regarded." In the last there is much *à propos* of the Papists and their prestumed connection with the Fire, and concludes in saying how the civic business is to be conducted at "Gresham Colledge."

Among the curious and interesting pamphlets which were called into existence on the occasion is one written three weeks after the event, by an anonymous writer, but dedicated to "his much honoured and respected friend, John Buller, Esq., a worthy

member of the House of Commons." After describing the outbreak on the morning of that ill-fated 8th September, and the rapidity with which the fire continued to spread, in spite of the strenuous exertions made to prevent it, he records how on the Wednesday following a stop was put to it at the Temple Church, near Holborn Bridge, Pye Corner, Aldersgate, Cripplegate Gate, near the lower end of Coleman Street at the end of Basinghall Street, by the Postern, at the upper end of Bishopsgate Street, and Leadenhall Street, at the Standard at Cornhill, at the Church at Fanchurch Street near Clothworkers' Hall in Mincing Lane, at the middle of Mark Lane and the Tower Dock. In a further chapter comparing the damage done with that recorded in the accounts of great conflagrations in foreign cities, it came nothing near this, "which in three days and three nights, of about 460 acres of ground upon which the City of London stood, hath swept away about 350, which is at the rate of four parts in five, having destroyed about 12,000 Houses, 87 Parochial Churches, besides 6 or 7 Consecrated Chapells, and the magnificent and stately Cathedral of St. Paul, the public and most excellent buildings of the Exchange. Guildhall and Custom House, and all, or very nearly all, the Halls belonging to every private Company, besides an innumerable quantity of goods of all sorts.<sup>1</sup> In the neighbourhood of St. Paul's, booksellers, as now, dwelled about the Cathedral Church; they sheltered their treasures in the subterranean Church of St. Faith's, which was propped up with so strong an arch and massy pillars that it seemed impossible the Fire could do any harm to it; but the Fire having crept into it through the windows, it seized upon the pews, and did so try and examine the arch and pillars, by sucking the moisture of the mortar that bound the stones together, that it was calcined into sand. So that when the top of the Cathedral fell upon it, it beat it flat, and set all things in an irremediable flame. I have heard," continues the chronicler, "that judicious men of the trade affirm that the only loss of books, in that place and Stationers' Hall, public libraries, and private persons houses, could amount to no less than 150,000 pounds." Summing up the total losses as computed in connection with the public buildings of the time, he thus includes Guildhall with others, as deserving of special comment:—

<p>"Four-score and seven Parochial Churches, besides that of          St. Paul's, the Cathedral, and six consecrated Chapells,          the Exchange, Guildhall, Custome House, the Halls of          Companies and other Public Buildings, amounting to          half as much      ...      ...      ...      ...      ...</p>	<p>{ £1,800,000."</p>
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The MS. has been but briefly quoted, for the original letters are somewhat long. It contains no actual reference to Guildhall, although a very large number of public buildings are mentioned. The best description of the appearance of the Hall at the time has been previously referred to. In the diary of Samuel Pepys there is no especial reference to the building, neither is any to be found in the writings of his distinguished contemporary, John Evelyn, though both authors wrote at length in describing the various buildings that suffered by the Fire. The omission is possibly to be explained by the structure

<sup>1</sup> "Observations, Both Historical and Moral, upon the burning of London, September, 1666, with an account of the Losses, &c." By "Rege Sinceria." London, printed by Thomas Ratcliffe, and are to be sold by Robert Pawlett at the Bible in Chancery Lane, 1667, page 13 and seq.

having been only partially destroyed. There are, however, in the collections of the Bodleian and Guildhall Libraries two curious little poems, extracts of which, as they both contain distinct references to the Hall of some little interest, are here subjoined :—

## LONDINI QUOD RELIQUUM

OR,

## LONDONS REMAINS :

IN

LATIN AND ENGLISH.

[BY SIMON FORD, D.D.]

LONDON.

PRINTED FOR SA : GELLIBRAND. 1667.

pp. 5, 6 and 7.

A *lofty Pile*, (now *humbled*) next appears,  
Once *Christ'ned* 'twas *SAINT SEPULCHERS* :  
Which since it felt the *all-interring Flame*,  
The *Saint lost*, kept its *empty Name*.

They tell us here of *One unmelted Bell*,  
That *toll'd* Condemned *Felons Knell*.  
This *Rumour* heard, *hang* still, said she, to do  
That *Work* for *LONDON'S FAUXES* too.

Thus, *Westward* plac'd, She view'd the *WESTERN TOWN*  
Glad by its *Tops* it might be *known* :  
And, (*Englands Glories*) I congratulate  
To *you*, (She said) your *better Fate*.  
There stands *Saint Peter's Shrine* : Next, that, wherein  
What denies *Princes Gods*, is seen.

And there's the *House* where *wisest Heads* decreed,  
And th' *HALL* where *nimblest Tongues* are *fed*.  
And there's *WHITEHALL*, a *Noble Pile*, although  
Its *Royal Owner* much below.  
I joy you *both*, (may *both Joyes* lasting be)  
Of *Thee*, thy *Master*, of thy *Master, Thee*.

Her *Face* once *turn'd*, she now beholds an *Heap*,  
Where stood a *Street*, misnamed *CHEAP*.  
Here once a *glorious Aqueduct* did shine,  
Where *Triumphs Water* turn'd to *Wine*.  
May *Fire* refine, and *teach* thee too, She cries,  
As *statelier*, so more *honest* rise.

On the *next Gate*, unhappy *Limbs* there stood,  
That expiated *Charles His Blood*.  
The *Flames* themselves were *loath*, that *after-Times*  
Should lose the *Vengeance* of such *Crimes*.  
This seen ; *Sad Reliques*, teach the *World*, (She sings)  
*Long-handed* are the *Ghosts of Kings*.

## HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE GUILDHALL.

To *SION-COLLEGE* next She turns her *Eyes* ;  
 Which, *part-burnt, part-escap'd*, She spies.  
*Dear Books*, (said she) your *dangers* were my *cares* :  
 And now my *Joy* exceeds my *fears*.  
*Glad you are safe* ; I *gladder* should become,  
 Your *House re-built*, and *you at home*.

Here *flam'd* an *Hive* the *Muses Bird* had fraught  
 With *Honey* from *Hymettus* brought.  
*Poor Bird!* (said She) this *Fate* attends thy *Name*,  
 For *BEEs* oft *plund'rd* are with *Flame*.  
 But *Vulcan*, yet, me-thinks, you *Custom broke*,  
 For th' *Honey sav'd*, the *Bees* we *smoke*.  
 Yea, rather, *thank me, Madam*, (answer'd *Hee*)  
 That *took your Hive*, and *drove your Bee*.  
 Your *Bee preserv'd*, will spread his *buzzing wing*,  
 And to *New Hives* all *Hybla* bring.

Within this *Hive*, of all the *Wealth* She *lost*,  
 The *Sacred Criticks* stung her most.  
*Dear Births*, (said She) of my *once-teeming Throves*,  
 Now *Parents* of my *lasting Woes* !  
*Unhappy Flame*, in which *devoured* lye  
 Th' *Ashes* of all *Antiquity* !  
 No *other Losse* disdaineth *Times repair* :  
 But *This*, is *Times* and *my despair*.

Next *GUILD-HALL*, once, on *Marble Pillars* stood,  
 Pillars, too *proud* of such a *Load*.  
*Two armed Giants* were its constant *Guard*,  
 Whiles thither *peaceful Gowns* repair'd.  
 Here, a *grave Senate* Causes did *debate*,  
 Which the *Lord Mayor* adjudg'd in *State*.  
 But *lawless Flames* *adjourn'd* the *Court* from thence,  
 'Gainst which its *Guards* were no *defence*.  
 But, *Rise*, (said She) more *stately* from thine *Urn*,  
 And may the *banisht Court* return.

## THE DREADFUL BURNING OF LONDON:

DESCRIBED IN A POEM.

BY

J. G. M. A.

[JOSEPH GUILLIM OF BRASENOSE COLL.]

LONDON. 1667.

p. 8.

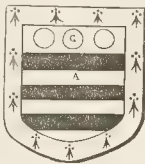
They hence to *Bow-Church* stretch themselves, where they  
 Its lofty *Roof* do in the *ashes* lay.  
 And having first destroy'd the *sacred Quire*,  
 Up to the *stately Tower* they next *aspire*.



The Bells before rung backward, did thereby,  
 Some accidental fire still signifie.  
 But when the Churches and the Bellfries burn,  
 The Bells are dumb, and their black towers mourn.  
 What Fire is this, makes the Bells cease to chime ?  
 Destroies the Clocks, so triumphs over time :  
 Vast<sup>1</sup> Halls, nor Temples could these flames repel,  
 Which ruin'd all, where e're their fury fell.  
 Rich Fabricks, once the Glory of our Isle,  
 Become but now the Cities Funeral Pile.  
*Guild Hall*, where the grave Senatours still sate,  
 When they the City business did debate.

Immediately after the Great Fire, a meeting was held at Gresham House, under the presidency of Sir Thomas Bludworth, Mayor,<sup>2</sup> for the purpose of considering the amount of damage wrought by that calamity. The ruins were ordered to be cleared of all rubbish and obstruction, and that no other labour was to be undertaken with respect to the various dwellings until such were finished. A Committee was appointed for the City's present subsistence and for letting out to the Freemen of the City, whose buildings had been destroyed, plots of ground in Moorfields, the Artillery Grounds and other vacant spaces.

Sir Thomas Bludworth does not appear from the recorded opinions of the time to have been altogether equal to the duties required of him in this emergency. He was the son of a wealthy Turkey merchant descended from a Derbyshire family, pursued a business career, and by degrees rose to a position of high standing. He was elected Sheriff in 1662, at which time he was probably knighted. In 1665 he became Master of the Vintners' Company, and was elected Lord Mayor in the same year, and, as mentioned, it was during his tenure of office that the Great Fire occurred. Pepys, in his "Diary," speaks of him in far from complimentary terms as to other matters, but especially as to his connection with the arrangements which had to be so promptly made at this disastrous time. The diarist had been sent by the King to the Lord Mayor to command him not to spare any of the houses, but to pull down before the Fire in every direction. He says, "At last met my Lord Mayor in Canning Street, like a man spent, with a handkercher about his neck. To the King's message he cried, like a fainting woman, Lord ! what can I do ? I am spent ; people will not obey me. I have been pulling down houses, but the fire overtakes us faster than we can do it ; that he needed no more soldiers ; and that for himself, he must go and refresh himself having been up all night, so he left me and I him and walked home." It is recorded in Rugges' "Diurnal," that the Fire continued to smoulder in some of the cellars of the houses for nearly four months, and it is to this circumstance that Pepys alludes, when, under date of December 1, he says, "Walking to the Old Swan I did see a cellar in Tower Streete in a very fresh



<sup>1</sup> *Domus munimentis septa, Templum muris cincta, Delubra Deum et Porticus amenitatis dicata, latius procidere. Tacit. 15. Anal.*

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 71, fol. 169-175.

fire, the late great winds having blown it up. It seemed to be only log-wood that hath kept the fire all this while in it. Going further, I met my late Lord Mayor Bludworth under whom the City was burned. But Lord ! the silly talk that the silly fellow had, only how ready he would be to part with all his estate in these difficult times to advocate the King's service, and complaining that now as everybody did lately in the Fire, everybody endeavours to save himself and let the whole perish, but a very weak man he seems to be."

Sir Thomas was a subscriber towards the rebuilding of Vintners' Hall. He lived and died at Camden House, Maiden Lane. His daughter Anne became the wife of Sir George Jefferys, Lord High Chancellor of England.

The family Arms were *Argent*, three bars *sable* in chief, three *torteaux or* within a *bordure ermine*.

In the record of another meeting held in the same place, it is ordered that the City workmen<sup>1</sup> repair Newgate so as to make it secure as to prisoners there, that the Sessions House at the Old Bailey be fitted up for public use, and that the portion connected with Guildhall, where the Courts of Justice were wont to be held, should with all speed be fitted up for former use, and the Chamberlain was instructed to pay out from time to time such monies as were required. On the 4th October, in the same year and at the same place, Sir Thomas Adams, with others of an appointed Committee, attended on the Lord Chancellor, and other of His Majesty's Privy Council, to receive from the King an expression of his pleasure as to the most expeditious manner of rebuilding the destroyed portion of the City. For the better arrangement of the work a Committee was appointed, comprising Dr. Wren, Mr. May and Mr. Pratt, to act in connection with the Surveyors to the Corporation and they were requested to make a speedy survey of all that had been destroyed by "the late dismal fire." They were to see that particular interests were looked after and provided for, and it was settled that Mr. Hooke, Reader of Mathematics in Gresham College, Mr. Mills, Mr. Edward Formyn, "doe joyn with the said Dr. Wren, Mr. May and Mr. Pratt in taking the said survey, in order that they may have the opportunity of looking to the interests, not only of themselves, but those of the inhabitants of the respective Wards."

At a meeting of the Court held at Gresham House on the 9th October, 1666,<sup>2</sup> it was ordered that the various proprietors of dwellings destroyed by the Fire should clear all rubbish from the foundations, and pile up the bricks and stones, within fourteen days from the publication of the notice. In the same Journal<sup>3</sup> there is an entry of the Proclamation for a General Fast throughout the country on Wednesday, 10th October, 1666, "given at Whitehall, 13 September, in the 18th year of our reign."

At a meeting held on the 6th November, 1666, under the presidency of Sir William Bolton, Mayor, a weekly meeting was arranged for, taking into consideration the rebuilding of the Hall. The following is the order, as entered in the records :—

"It is thought fitt and Ordered by this Court that to morrow in the afternoone and see weekly on Wednesdayes in the Afternoone soe long as there shall bee occasion a Speciall Court of Aldermen shall bee holden att my Lord Maior's house, to advise and consider of rebuilding the Guildhall, Gates, Prisons and other Publique Works & of raising or obeyning some revenue to carry on the same."<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Journal xlv, fol. 120b.

Idem, fol. 128.

<sup>3</sup> Idem, xlv, fol. 128.

<sup>4</sup> Repertory 72, fol. 2.

At a meeting held at Gresham House, 12th November, 1666, under the presidency of William Bolton, Mayor, thanks were voted to the Lord Chief Justice and the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer for having held their sittings within the walls of the late Guildhall, pending the separation of the rooms then being fitted up for their better accommodation. In the record here quoted, reference appears<sup>1</sup> to the various alterations in the old thoroughfares, and a list is given of new streets to be constructed. It is mentioned that "ye new street intended from Guildhall to Cheapside be 36 feet broad, from Guildhall into Cheapside a high street, from Cheapside to Newgate also a high street." At this time the Irish Chamber was ordered to be repaired. The order for the rebuilding and providing accommodation meanwhile for the Courts of Justice is given in the Records,<sup>2</sup> "That Mr. Mills and the Citty workemen doe speedily as can be done prepare conveniencyes within the ruines of the Guildhall, to keepe all the Courts there in the places they were antiently kept," and further it was ordered by a subsequent Court,<sup>3</sup> that "the Sheriffes shall attend my Lords the Judges, and make excuse for the places erected within the Walls of the late Guildhall, that they are no more commodious for their Lordships sitting which for the shortness of time and condition of the place could not be remedied, and desired that their Lordships will please for this terme to content themselves with those places, and this Court will endeavour, and do hope against the next sitting to have those rooms of the Hall rebuilt and fitted where their Lordships formerly sat."

In the following month there is a further meeting for the purpose of considering whether some of the ground adjacent to the Hall could not be purchased from the owners with a view to increase the accommodation, or in any way prove advantageous to the requirements of the new building. The entry is dated 4th December, 1666.

"It is ordered that the Committee of this Court formerly appointed to direct & order the rebuilding and repayres at the Guildhall shall treat and agree with the proprietors of any Ground about the said Hall which they thinke fitt to bee purchased for the Ornament and Accomodacon of the place or otherwise for the vse & benefit of the Citty."

The works were already in hand, for at the same meeting we gather that an agreement had been made with the City Mason for certain portion of the work, and it is ordered that grants of money shall be made from time to time as the work proceeds, and be continued until the whole be completed, in accordance with the contract.

"This Court now approving the Agreement in writing made with Thomas Jordan, the Citty Mason, for Stone Worke to be done about that parte of the Guildhall now in hande to be repaid doth thinke fitt and order that the sum of xx<sup>li</sup> which shall be due for the said worke, (viz<sup>t</sup>) xx<sup>li</sup> and xxx<sup>li</sup> as the same shall proceed & be carryed & the residue when the whole is finished shall bee paid according to the Tenor of the s<sup>d</sup> agreem<sup>t</sup>."

At a succeeding meeting, under the presidency of the same Mayor, we find that one of the provisions to be made for meeting the requisite expenditure is the appropriation of fines paid by such individuals as may not wish to undertake the duties of Aldermen.<sup>4</sup>

"It is ordered by this Court that all fines or summes of money which betwixt this & Midd<sup>s</sup> shall bee paid by any persons to bee discharged of y<sup>e</sup> office of Aldr<sup>n</sup> shall be reserved in the Chamber and employed only towards the rebuilding & repaire of the Guildhall and Justicehall in the Old Bayley. And to that ende that a viewe be taken and consideracon had of what is now requisite to bee done at each of the said places."

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 72, fol. 146.<sup>2</sup> Repertory 71, p. 172.<sup>3</sup> Repertory 78, p. 2.<sup>4</sup> Repertory 72, fol. 81b.

In addition to the meetings for business at Gresham House, "Change" was also held in the gardens and walks attached to that building. It was ordered that they should be speedily fitted and prepared for the occasion, and the Governors of the East India Company were desired to remove the pepper out of the said walks with all convenient speed.<sup>1</sup> The King had also been requested to send tents into Finsbury Fields for the comfort and accommodation of the poor "whose dwellings had been consumed and cannot yet provide themselves with other habitations; and further, that all care and diligence be used at the places where the Fire had been quenched, by labour and watchfulness, that the same do not kindle again, and that the Aldermen of the respective Wards appoint honest and able persons for the effective execution of the service." The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, under the same authority, were, in cases where their residences had been destroyed, "to make use of such rooms in Gresham House as his Lordship shall thinke fitt, for their lodgyng and accommodation during their respective offices." At a succeeding meeting, held at the same place, it was ordered that, "the places within the ruinous walls of the late Guildhall, and the offices therewith belonging, be forthwith cleansed of stones and rubbish, and that the melted lead and iron, and such other materials as are of value, be picked out and preserved for the Cittys use, and that all the passages to the said Guildhall bee forthwith closed with ye Boards now standing on the Cittys ground neere Mooregate, and that Sir William Turner, Mr. Alderman Starling and Sir Richard Ryvos, or any two of them, doo direct and order this service to be done in such manner, and by such hands, and for such wages as they may thinke fitting." It was also decreed that "Mr. Chamberlain shall keepe his office in Doctor Goddards lodgings in Gresham House, until the Court shall otherwise direct and order. And moreover, that Mr. Avory, Dep<sup>y</sup> Towne Clerke, and Mr. Swordbearer, whose houses were consumed by the fire, shall for their accommodation and same readinesse to attend this Court and services of this Citty, and for the better custody of the records removed from Guildhall, and such books and papers as shall be in use, have the lodging in Gresham House which was lately enjoyed by Doctor Horton." In a subsequent paragraph this order appears in detail. The late residence of the Doctor is stated to be the "most commodious in severall respects for the placing of the Records and the writings of daily use and necessity."

So great was the expenditure in connection with rebuilding or restoring the large number of public buildings which had been destroyed that the Corporation decided upon petitioning the Crown for an Act of Parliament enabling them to levy a duty upon all coals entering the Port of London. By this means a large sum would be realised and in a fair and equitable way, inasmuch as set forth in the petition the burden would to a great extent fall upon the citizens themselves. The petition addressed to Charles II by the Court is as follows:—<sup>2</sup>

TO THE KINGS MOST EXCELLENT MAJ<sup>TY</sup>

THE HUMBLE PETIC<sup>ON</sup> OF THE LORD MAIOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

SHEWETH

That in the late dreadfull conflagracion of the said Citty the Guildhall with the Chappell and offices, severall of the Gates, and all the Prisons, the Conduits, and Aqueducts, and other publique workes and goodly Monuments of great Antiquity, Ornament and Necessity, have bene miserably burnt and destroyed, and cannot

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 72, fol. 20b.

<sup>2</sup> Domestic State Papers, Charles II, vol. 192, No. 165.



without an immense charge bee restored rebuilt and maintained as they ought to bee ; And the Citty having no common stock, nor revenue, nor any capacity to raise within it selfe anything considerable towards so vast an expence. The peticoñers have prepared a Bill for an Imposicion upon Coles that shall bee brought into the Port of London, to bee employed to those uses ; as the most reasonable and easie way they could devise, and least greivous to others in regard very much of the Duty will fall to bee borne by the Cittizens themselves.

The Peticoñers do therefore most humbly beseech your Majesties countenance and Royall leave for preferring the said Bill to the High Court of Parliament for establishing the said Imposicion for such time as your Majestie in your great wisdom shall thinke convenient for restoring and maintaining the said publique workes for your Majesties Service and the Honour and welfare of this your Royall Chambers

And your Pet<sup>rs</sup> shall ever pray etc.

AVERY.

The formation of the new street leading from Guildhall to Cheapside was, of course, one of the results of the Fire. This road is shown in Ogilby's Map as New King Street, and marks the opening of a most important thoroughfare for the convenience of the citizens.

In the Calendar of State Papers, under date Charles II, February, 1667, it is stated that, "the Committee of the Common Council of London, for making the new street called King Street, between Guildhall and Cheapside, will sit twice a week at Guildhall, to treat with persons concerned as to the value of their land, persons refusing to appear enquiry was to be made by jury according to the Act for Re-building the City, as to what compensation should be awarded to them." The minute is thus recorded :—

"The Committee appointed by order of the Common Councell of the City of London to treat with and satisfie the owners of the Ground to be taken away for the makeing the new street between Guildhall and Cheapside called Kingstreet doe give notice that they do intend to sit at the Guildhall London about that affaire every Wednesday and Fryday in the forenoon where they shalbe ready to treat with and satisfie all persons concerned in such ground And doe give notice that Inquiry shalbe taken by a jury (according to the late Act of Parliament for rebuilding the City) of the vallue of all persons Ground who shall refuse to appeare before them."<sup>1</sup>

At a special meeting of the Court, held on the 19th December, 1671, the Mayor, George Waterman, presiding, a resolution is recorded in connection with the distribution to the poor of the remainder of the money which had been subscribed for the relief of those who had suffered loss at the time of the Great Fire. A list is given as follows of the Wards concerned, together with an order that the amounts be paid to the "Aldran, Deputy and Coñion Councell men of the said severall wards to go amongst the poore, distressed by the said fire, and those only in proportion to every ones condicōn, sufferings and necessitys and that a faire and pticuler accompt bee kept to bee pduced as there shall be occasion of the just disposall of the said money."

l. s.		l. s.	
Of Bridge	viii.	Of Cornhill	vj.
Of Cordwayner	viii.	Of Langborne	xv.
Of Candlewicke	x.	Walbrooke	x.
Of Bassishaw	vii.	Far Without	xxviii.
Faringdon Within	xxxviii. xii.	Castle Baynard	xvi.
Bishopsgate Within	ij.	Vintrey	xviii.
Aldersgate Within	xv.	Coleman Street	xij.
Cheape	iii.	Cripplegate W <sup>thin</sup>	xii. xii.
Tower	xii.	Broad Street	vii.
Dowgate	xv.	Bread Street	vi. xvi.
Billingsgate	xiii.	Queenhithe	xviii.

<sup>1</sup> Domestic State Papers, Charles II, vol. 189, No. 49.

From this it would appear that proportionately at this time there was a comparatively small number of necessitous persons resident in the immediate neighbourhood of Guildhall.

There is a reference to the formation of King Street in the "Diary" of Samuel Pepys, which is of some interest as indicating the alteration of the value of land and house property in certain districts of the City resulting from the Great Fire. Writing on the 3rd December, 1667, he says, "Sir Richard Ford told us this evening an odd story of the baseness of the late Lord Mayor, Sir W. Bolton, in cheating the poor of the City out of the collections made for the people that were burned, of £1,800; of which he can give no account, and in which he hath forsworn himself plainly, so as the Court of Aldermen hath sequestered him from their Court till he do bring in an account." He says also, "that this day hath been made appear to them that the keeper of Newgate hath at this day made his house the only nursery of rogues, prostitutes, pickpockets and thieves in the world, where they were bred and entertained, and the whole society met, and that for the sake of the Sheriffs, they durst not this day commit him for fear of making him let out the prisoners, but are fain to go by artifice to deal with him. He tells me also, speaking of the new street that is to be made from the Guildhall down to Cheapside, that the ground is already most of it bought, and tells me of one particular of a man that hath a piece of ground lying in the very middle of the street that must be, which when the street is cut out of it, there will remain ground enough on each side to build a house to front the street. He demanded £700 for the ground and to be excused paying anything for the melioration of the rest of his ground that he was to keep. The Court consented to give him the £700 only not to abate him the consideration, which the man denied; but told them and so they agreed that he would excuse the City the £700, that he might have the benefit of the melioration without paying anything for it. So much some will get by having the City burned. Ground by this means, that was not worth four-pence a foot before, will now, when houses are built, be worth fifteen shillings a foot. But he tells me of the common standard now reckoned on between man and man in places where there is no alteration of circumstances, but only the houses burnt; here the ground which with a house on it did yield £100 a year, is now reputed worth £33. 6s. 8d., and that is the common market price between one man and another made upon a good and moderate medium."

As Ogilby's map was the only authorised survey of the reconstructed City, it will be interesting to record the high estimation in which it was held at the time it was completed. At a Court held before Sir Richard Ford, Mayor,<sup>1</sup> on the 27th July, 1670, among the resolutions of the meeting appears the following "Whereas this Court is informed and well satisfied of the care and industry of John Ogilby, Esq., Citizen and Merchant Taylor, of London, in the designing, printing and publishing a complete map of the City of London with its Liberties and adjacent parts, this Court doth therefore grant unto the said John Ogilby free power and authority to design and engrave and print the same, forbidding all other persons whomsoever to engrave, print, or copy, any new designed map or ground plot of the City of London and Liberties, or any part or parcel thereof, or the prospect or other design of the Exchange, Guildhall, or other ornamentall or public edifice within the said City or Liberties without licence first had of the said John Ogilby or his assigns."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 76, fol. 214b.

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 77, 1671-1672, fol. 89b.

At the time when John Ogilby was contemplating the publication of his Survey of the City and its Liberties, an application for protection against the pirating of his work was made to the Corporation. At a special meeting of the Court, 20th February, 1671, we find that "Whereas this Court is informed that John Ogilby, Esq., his Majesty's Cosmographer, is preparing an historicall descripcōn and a newe and more accurate Survey of the City of London and Libtyes thereof than hitherto hath beene done, it is now upon the humble request of the said John Ogilby ordered by this Court that the said John Ogilby shall proceede in the said worke without interrupcōn or molestacōn of any other person or persons that shall or may attempt the saame designs."<sup>1</sup>

In Granger's "Biographical History of England," there is a short notice of Johannes Ogilvius, or John Ogilby. He is spoken of as having been a most industrious man and as one who commenced the pursuit of literature at a time when other men would be thinking of leaving it. He attempted translations of Virgil and Homer, brought out an edition of Æsop's Fables, and an heroic poem in twelve books in honour of Charles I, the latter being, as he himself relates, "the pride, divertisement, business and sole comfort of his age." This was burnt in the Fire of 1666. It was by this calamity that his fortune was reduced to the small sum of £3, but he was successful in his efforts to retrieve his losses which he did in the space of a few years. He was employed by Charles II to take a survey of the roads throughout the kingdom. His death occurred on the 4th September, 1676.

Subsequent to the Great Fire of 1666 but little of importance has to be recorded in connection with the Hall. After this event immediate action was taken to provide means for the restoration not only of the Hall but the Chapel and the adjacent buildings. Among the records is an account of the monies borrowed for the building of the different public edifices connected with the Corporation, and from this it appears that the re-edification for the Guildhall absorbed an expenditure of £34,776. 5s. 0d., this included the tenements, there being a distinct charge for the Chapel amounting to £1,845. It is rather singular that in the second volume of the Journals commencing with the year 1594, and ranging from that period to the year 1694 inclusive, there should be but one entry having any special reference to the Hall, and this is the one relating to the thanks voted to the Lord Chief Justice and others for the conduct of business in places within the walls of the partly demolished building, until other rooms could be prepared and fitted up.<sup>2</sup> A long period is thus unaccounted for, and it is a question as to how far the record of matters associated with the building became transferred to other chroniclers. A further mention of the structure, is one that commences anew a chronological account of much appertaining thereto and its surroundings. It occurs in the volume of the Journals commencing with the year 1694 and terminates with that of 1799. The entry referred to occurs in another volume,<sup>3</sup> 1759 to 1762, thus leaving nearly a century unaccounted for, though an indirect mention of the building appears in connection with Royal Entertainments and Receptions; for example, the Banquet given to the Prince of Orange prior to his taking leave of England;<sup>4</sup> and again the presence of William and Mary at dinner at the Guildhall on Lord Mayor's Day; also the invitation given by the Corporation to the Prince and Princess of Denmark, &c.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 76, fol. 24b

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 77, 1671-1672, fol. 89b.

<sup>3</sup> Journal 46, fol. 129b.

<sup>4</sup> Journal 62.

<sup>5</sup> Journal 47 (1669-1673).



Though there does not appear to be much to be gathered from the records at this particular time, there is rather an interesting reference to Guildhall preserved in a diary written by Samuel Sewall, an American Judge. It is entitled "England in 1689," and was published by the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, U.S.A., in the year 1878. The writer commences on Thursday, 22nd November, 1688, with his departure from Boston Harbour, and continues from time to time to relate the incidents of his voyage, mentions various places which attracted his attention, until his arrival at Dover, 13th January, 1688-9. He subsequently visits London, and refers to the buildings which he had the opportunity of observing. There is a reference to a visit to Westminster, the Royal Exchange, Whitehall, Temple, Gresham College, and Christ's Hospital. On Saturday, 9th February, 1688-9, as he goes to Guildhall, he writes, "Guildhall I find to be fifty yards long of which the hustings take up near seven yards; measuring by the same jointed rule, Mr. Brattle and I find the breadth to be sixteen yards." On Wednesday, the 20th March, he goes again, taking in Weavers' Hall and Goldsmiths' Hall. At Guildhall he finds the citizens choosing their Mayor. He says, "About 16 were put up, though I think but four were intended. Pilkington and Stamp had by much the most Hands, yet those for fatal Moor and Rayment would have a Pole, which the Court of Aldermen, in their scarlet gowns, ordered to be at four o'clock. They sat at the hustings; the Sheriffs in their gold chains, managed the election. Common Serjeant, Counsel of the Mayor and Aldermen, made a speech, when the people cried, A Hall! A Hall! The Aldermen came up two by two, the Mace carried before them came in at the dore opposite the street dore out of another apartment. I stood in the Clock Gallery." Mr. J. Greenstreet, who has communicated the Diary which contains the foregoing extract to the pages of the Antiquarian Magazine and Bibliographer, has a foot-note to the effect that the parties to this contest were Sir Thomas Pilkington, elected Lord Mayor in 1689; Sir Thomas Stamp in 1692; Sir Jonathan Raymond, and probably Sir John Moore who had been Mayor in 1682, or some relative of his. In the year 1682 there was a severe struggle for the election of Sheriffs. Kennett says, "This great struggle put the Court upon considering, and in a manner resolving to take away the election of Sheriffs out of the power of the City, and no other expedients could be found but by taking away their charter." This may account for the epithet "fatal" attached to Sir John Moore's name.<sup>1</sup>

#### Lotteries.

Reference has been made elsewhere to the presence in the Hall of shopkeepers and traders who were allowed, as at Westminster to a very recent period, to offer their respective wares for sale. The Hall, however, in addition to such appropriation was at times utilised for the drawing of the State and other Lotteries, popular institutions in the last and preceding centuries. An illustration from the Gardner collection accompanies this brief notice of a system of English and Corporation financing, happily long since dispensed with and abolished. Such gambling transactions were like the majority of other things, good or evil legacies from the ancients. The acquisition of wealth or possession of any kind by the means of chance and hazard finds many a prototype in Scripture history. With the Romans Lotteries enlivened their saturnalia, Augustus rejoiced in them, Nero was one who established a public lottery of a thousand tickets a day all prizes, some of which made the fortune of the holder of the ticket. Heliogabalus was the inventor of some very singular Lotteries, the prizes were either of great value or of none at all; prizes of slaves were

<sup>1</sup> "Antiquarian Magazine," March, pp. 116, and seq.





FROM THE ORIGINAL ENGRAVING IN THE POSSESSION OF J. J. COLEMAN, ESQ., F.R.S.

W. DRYDEN, PUBLISHER.

DRAWING THE STATE LOTTERY IN GUILDHALL, 1763.



given, others of flies only. Valuable vases in some cases, in others, vessels of the most inferior description.

In English history the first record to be depended upon in connection with this form of speculation appears to belong to the reign of Queen Elizabeth—this was in the year 1567, "when prizes in money were provided, and others in good tapestry meet for hangings and other covertures, and certain sorts of good linen cloth." The objects for which some 400,000 lots were disposed of was for the purpose—at least so said the Government of the day—for repairing the harbours and fortifications and for the public works. In 1630 we read of a special license being granted by Charles I for a lottery to raise the requisite expenditure necessary for the conveyance of water to London. The money was collected, and in 1641 on the 28th May a petition was presented by Sir Walter Roberts, praying that it should be paid over to the hands of the Lord Mayor and Corporation to be employed for that purpose only.<sup>1</sup> Many others might be quoted, while the rage for such hazardous speculation existed. Guildhall was frequently the building selected for the drawing. It has been stated that so driven to the verge of madness were the speculators that medical practitioners were in the habit of attending in order to be at hand should their services be required when the announcement of loss had too great an effect upon the loser. There is a curious broadside extant, which tells of the State Lottery office being at No. 1 Cornhill, and that a firm named Pidding and Co. were the proprietors. The same little record mentions—with what amount of truth, I know not—that Thomas Guy, the founder of the well-known hospital which bears his name, resided at this house, and by his speculations in this direction had realised the enormous sum of nearly £400,000. The engraving shows the drawing of a State Lottery in Guildhall. The business is being conducted beneath Beckford's monument, the President is seated at the table with other dignitaries on either side, and four clerks are represented in a space beneath and fronting their President. The drawing is going on, the tickets being collected, as was customary, by Blue-coat Boys, from Christ's Hospital. On one side is the wheel for blanks, and on the other appears one for prizes. From the shape of the quaint structures in which the wheel is enclosed, it is clear that they could be closed up when not in use. The Royal Crown, which is seen on one portion, would then be in the centre. With reference to the custom of the schoolboys being selected for drawing the tickets, there is, among much other nonsense on the little broadside or advertising sheet referred to, the following:—

"This is the Wheel in which Prizes abound, which the Blue-coated Boys will quickly turn round, who drew the same Number which Columbine found by the side of the Horse Shoe that Emblem of Luck, which was stamp't on the Shares which so many partook of the Capital Prizes which Pidding has sold, at the very same House, as in History told, the Lucky old House where Guy lived."

Without much reference to the subject, the Lottery is interesting as regards the Corporation, from its association with worthy Alderman Boydell. He had accumulated, as is well known, a large collection of works of art, and being anxious to dispose of them in this way, he applied for and obtained an Act of Parliament for the purpose. He did not, however, survive to witness the drawing as he died on 11th December, 1804, a few days after the first tickets were sold. The drawing took place on 28th January, 1805, at Guildhall, and one Mr. Tassie, of Leicester Square, became

<sup>1</sup> "House of Lords Calendar." See L.J., iv, 259.



the fortunate possessor of the valuable Shaksperian Gallery, and a right in the estate and interests of the Messrs. Boydell.

Among the objects deposited for exhibition in the Library are specimens of the Lottery tickets, which are interesting as illustrations. There are examples of three series of vouchers signed by the proper recognised officials. Upon the first is graven an interesting vignette of the Church of St. Clement Danes in the Strand. These bear the signature of John Silvester, Recorder. This particular Lottery was organised under the authority of an Act of Parliament in the year 1805, 46 George III. The second Lottery was drawn on the 26th April, 1808. Upon the tickets appear the autograph signatures of Josiah Boydell, Bryce Combe, and John Vaillant, the Commissioners. The record of the transactions gives twenty numbers of successful ventures, the prizes consisting of house properties in the City. The third, drawn 7th February, 1811, was likewise for similar property in certain districts. A list is preserved in the collection of the benefits and blanks.

With the improvement in good taste which by degrees sprang up in the early part of the present century, the Government of the country, although the revenue became a sufferer to the extent of some £300,000 per annum, began to feel a sense of degradation in obtaining money by such means, and awoke to a sense of the moral evil which it inflicted on the general community, and determined to abolish them. An Act for the purpose was passed in the reign of George IV, and on the 18th October, 1826, the last State Lottery was drawn in England.

Orphans'  
Court.

The Orphans' Court is one that has been customary to hold before the Lord Mayor and Aldermen at Guildhall. The Mayor and his colleagues were the guardians to the children of Freemen that are under age at the decease of their fathers. The City records contain a large amount of highly-interesting information in connection with the proceedings of this Court, and many are the entries which could be quoted in illustration of the care and vigilance exercised by the officials of past times in their endeavours to discharge with faithfulness the trusts confided to them. In the event of marriage, it was necessary that orphans of Freemen, whose affairs were under the supervision of the Court, should obtain the consent of the latter. This was essential ere the union could take place, and where this was omitted to be obtained, a fine and penalty were imposed; for example, it will be found that this happened to Ralph Harwood, a merchant, who had married one, Martha Offley, "an orphan of this City," and in consequence had incurred a fine of *xli*. This amount the husband paid into the Chamber of London; but it was subsequently ordered, at a Court held on the 1st February, 1671, Waterman, Mayor, presiding, that the sum of *xxxv*<sup>1</sup> "be returned as part of the said fine paid by him as aforesaid."<sup>1</sup>

Occasionally such unions occurred between the daughters of deceased citizens who were in charge of the Corporation, with members of the aristocracy, and there is a reference of interest to one in connection with the Scarsdale family. On the 13th February, 1671, the Earl of Scarsdale appeared before Lord Mayor Sir George Waterman and the assembled Court, to "acquaint them that his eldest sonne had lately married with

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 77, 1671, 1672, fol. 73.



Mary, one of the daughters and orphans of Sir John Lewis, Late Cityen and Ironmonger of London." The Court accordingly desired that "his Löpp would be pleased to appeare before this Court agayne on Thursday next, and bring the said orphan and the young Lord, her husband, with him, and they would desire Sir Thomas Foot, who is grandfather to the said orphan, to bee here prēt also, and they would then consider what answer be returned unto his Löpp touching that matter."<sup>1</sup> At the subsequent Court held on 15th February, 1671, it appears that the said Earl of Scarsdale was admitted as guardian to the said Mary and the other orphans of Sir John Lewis, Knt., and so to continue during the pleasure of the Court. The matter of the marriage was further considered, and it was decreed that "Whereas Robert, Lord Deincourt, eldest sonne of the Right Hon<sup>b</sup> the Earl of Scarsdale, hath lately married with Mary, one of the Daughters and late orphans of Sir John Lewis, Knt.," late Cittizen and Ironmonger of London decēd, And the said Earle, desiring the consent of this Court thereon, and acquainting this Court that hee had made a good and ample settlement for a joynture upon the said Mary, it is ordered by this Court that Mr. Recorder Sir William Turner and Sir Robert Clayton, Knts. and Aldrēn, with Mr. Comon Serjeant, shall examine and consider of the said settlement, and report their opinions unto this Court.<sup>2</sup>

Great care appears also to have been taken by this Court in looking after such matters as plate, jewels or other such things which might have been bequeathed or left for the advantage of Orphans under its protection. On the 26th March, 1672, a petition was presented by Richard Abraham and Martha, the children and orphans of Richard Price, late Cityen and Joyner of London, decēd, and it was ordered "That William Crosse, Exec<sup>r</sup> of the Last Will and Testament of John Richards, one of the overseers of the Last Will and Testament of the said Richard Price decēd, doe appeare before this Court on Thursday next, and bring with him a small box which this Court is informed he hath in his possession, wherein are several Gold rings and other things of value belonging to the said orphans."<sup>3</sup> Again, in a case where, like the son of the Earl of Scarsdale, a marriage had been entered into without the consent of the Court, one Isaac Jackson, Gent., had married Mary, daughter and orphan of Jeremy Halfehide, Cityen of London, decēd, made his appearance at the Court held 16th March, 1672, and agreed to settle upon her the sum of £300 a year, which was considered to be an amount compfēt to the portion to which the receiver would be entitled.<sup>4</sup> Further, on the 2nd May, 1672, an information was laid before the Court that the daughter of the late Alexander Holton, Cityen of London, "had been stolen away from the house of Mr. Holt, in Ironmonger Lane, and married to a trooper of inconsiderable fortune. It is ordered that the said Mr. Holt doo appeare here upon Tuesday next, to give an account touching that matter."<sup>5</sup> This order was confirmed at the following Court. No further reference, however, to the matter occurs until we read in the minutes of a Court held on the 6th June, 1672, when the case re-appears in connection with another daughter of the said Jeremy Halfehide, who had been conveyed away by her uncle into the country, his intention being to marry her to a relation, contrary to "the opinion and without the leave of this Court."<sup>6</sup> As the daughters were entitled to a

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 77, 1671, 1672, fol. 73 and seq.

<sup>3</sup> Idem, fol. 127.

<sup>6</sup> Idem, 1671, 1672, fol. 171.

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 77, 1671, 1672, fol. 122.

<sup>4</sup> Idem, fol. 144.

<sup>5</sup> Idem, fol. 200b.

considerable amount, it was ordered that the City Solicitor, doe attend the Lord Chiefe Justice for his Lopps Warrant to apprehend and bring before this Court all the said persons. (And that a Tippstaffe may be employed for that purpose if they cannot otherwise be taken), to be dealt with all according to the usage and custome of this City in the like cases." On the 9th July, in the same year, a Mr. Nevill, who had married one of the daughters, made his appearance and declared that he had settled £220 per annum upon his wife and heirs of her body, and was seised of a considerable estate of inheritance, besides, whereupon it was ordered "that he produce the Deed of the said Settlement to bee passed by Mr. Comon Serjeant, and give him satisfaccion in the point of the value of the said estates, and also bring the said other Orphan hither the first Court to be held in September next."<sup>1</sup> On the 14th May, 1672, it was decided that in future, and in all cases, that the Court might deem suitable in connection with obtaining security for payment of such portions as might belong to orphans that executors, or others liable for the same, should engage to allow to the recipients an amount equal to 5% per annum for all such "sume or sumes of money as shall be so secured for the use and benefitt of the said orphans."<sup>2</sup> In the same volume occurs an entry to the effect that Thomas Comer was committed to Newgate for a period at the disposal of the Court, for having married the daughter and orphan of Alexander Holt, Cityen, deceased, without leave or license. He was, however, to be released shortly afterwards, "provided he entered into a Bond for the disposal of her property to the advantage of herself and her heirs, in such a manner as the Court should deem most expedient." By the Act of Parliament George III, c. 37, 1767,<sup>3</sup> the whole of the Orphans' Fund was devoted to public purposes. The Court of Orphans was presided over by the Common Serjeant *ex officio*. Since the repeal by statutes of the City custom, under which the Citizens were prohibited from disposing by Will of more than one-third of their personal estate and the remaining part being required to be paid into the Chamber in trust for their orphans; the functions of this Court have entirely ceased, and all the practices connected therewith have fallen into desuetude, but the records are preserved in the muniment room of the Town Clerk.

New  
Library.

There are few things to which the Corporation have devoted more energy and attention than in the development of its present magnificent Library. We have elsewhere recorded all that is known in connection with the earlier building, founded by Whittington and his friend William Bury, its connection with John Carpenter in later years, the appropriation of its contents by the Lord Protector in 1552, and its final destruction in the Great Fire of 1666. Subsequent to this, a long period elapsed before the nucleus of the present valuable collection was formed. On the 8th April, 1824, upon the motion of Mr. Richard Lambert Jones, a special Committee was appointed to establish a Library in the Guildhall. This Committee recommended that a suite of rooms should be provided for the purpose, and assisted by the advice of William Upcott, then Librarian at the London Institution, and whose attachment to all branches of literary study is well known, they began by collecting works upon London, Southwark, Westminster, and the County of Middlesex, and on the 21st August, 1828, the first Librarian was appointed, viz., William

<sup>1</sup> Repertory 77, 1671, 1672, fol. 155.

<sup>2</sup> Repertory 77, fol. 198.

<sup>3</sup> Report of the House of Commons, 1823.



THE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF LONDON





Herbert, the author of the "History of the Twelve Great Livery Companies of London," and the Library was opened for the use of the Members of the Corporation. In 1832, a new building was provided for the treasures which, up to that time, had been collected. The first catalogue, issued in 1840, contained some 10,000 volumes. Mr. William Turner Alchin was appointed Librarian in 1845. The catalogue prepared by him, and issued in 1859, showed an increase up to no less than 30,000 volumes. The Corporation continued to increase in every way the usefulness and value of the collection, and at length allowed the general public to participate therein by issuing tickets to students and others. In 1865, the present Librarian, W. H. Overall, F.S.A., was appointed after having ably filled the position of sub-librarian for many years. Under his superintendence the great utility of the Library became by degrees to be so much appreciated, that additional accommodation was found necessary owing to the continued increase in the number of readers. This was brought before the Corporation in the year 1869, by Dr. William Sedgwick Saunders, F.S.A., and it was unanimously agreed that a more commodious building should be provided, and the site chosen was one at the east end of the Guildhall. The present building was then erected at an expenditure, inclusive of the land, of over £90,000. It was opened by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Selborne, on Tuesday the 5th November, 1872, as a Free Library.

The principal Library,<sup>1</sup> now daily thronged with readers and students is 100 feet long and 65 feet wide, and 50 feet in height, divided into nave and aisles, the latter being fitted with oak book cases, forming 12 bays. This room is well lighted, the clerestory over arcade of the nave, with the large windows at the north and south ends, together with those in the aisles, transmitting plenty of light to every corner of the room. The beautiful roof comprises arched ribs which are supported by the Arms of the twelve great City Companies, with the addition of those of the Leathersellers' and Broderers' and also the Royal and City Arms. The timbers are richly moulded, and the spandrels filled in with tracery. There are three large louvres for lighting the roof and providing ventilation. The aisle roofs, the timbers of which are also richly wrought, have louvres over each bay, and at night are lighted by means of sun-burners suspended from each of these louvres, together with those of the nave. Each spandrel of the arcade has, next the nave, a sculptured head, representing History, Poetry, Printing, Architecture, Sculpture, Painting, Philosophy, Law, Medicine, Music, Astronomy, Geography, Natural History and Botany; the several personages chosen to illustrate these subjects being Stow, Camden, Shakspeare, Milton, Guttenberg, Caxton, William of Wykeham, Christopher Wren, Michael Angelo, Flaxman, Holbein, Hogarth, Bacon, Locke, Coke, Blackstone, Harvey, Sydenham, Purcell, Handel, Galileo, Newton, Columbus, Raleigh, Linnæus, Cuvier, Ray and Gerard. There are three fireplaces in this room. The one at the north end, executed in D'Aubigny stone, is very elaborate in detail, the frieze consisting of a panel of painted tiles, the subject being an architectonic design of a procession of the Arts and Sciences, with the City of London in the middle, emblematised by an enlarged representation of the ancient seal, viz., St. Paul, and some mediæval buildings with a river in the foreground. The quatre-foil panels on either side have the sculptured heads of Carpenter, the founder of the City of London School, and Chaucer, the "Father of English Poetry."

<sup>1</sup> See Account of the Library, by W. H. Overall, F.S.A., in the "Transactions and Proceedings of the Conference of Librarians," held in London, October, 1877.

The two chimney-pieces at the south end are also carved and foliated with the words "Anno Domini MDCCCLXXII," on the frieze of one, and "Domine Dirige Nos," the City motto, on the other, surmounted in both instances with the Royal, City, Middlesex, Westminster and Southwark shields of Arms. The screens in front of these fire-places are executed in oak, the panels being inlaid with coloured foreign wood, and the bases of the screens forming dwarf book-cases, which are fitted to receive large folio books.



INTERIOR OF THE LIBRARY.

The  
Committee  
Room.

Adjoining the Library, on the east side, is the Committee room, which is lighted by windows looking on to Basinghall Street, and has a very richly-moulded waggon-headed roof, the principal ribs of which are supported on stone corbels, bearing the shields of Arms of the several members of the Committee specially appointed for the erection of this building.

The windows in this room are filled with glass in hexagonal quarries, each having a varied object of animal, bird, or flowers, and medallions representing the four Seasons, the Elements, Printing, Engraving, Time, etc. In the centre window are the Arms of the then Lord Mayor, Sir John Sills Gibbons, Bart., and those of the two late Lord Mayors, Sir Thomas Dakin, and Robert Besley, Esq.

The Public Reading-Room, at the south end of the Library, is a commodious apartment, 50 feet in length by 24 feet wide, lighted by a window at the west end, and also by sky-lights in the roof. The subject represented is the "School of Philosophy," taken from Raphael's celebrated mural painting; the principal personages represented are Plato, Aristotle, Archimides, Socrates, Zoroaster, Alcibiades and Pythagoras. It was presented by Baron Lionel de Rothschild, Member of Parliament for the City of London. The entrance from Basinghall Street is by a porch having wrought-iron gates, on the left hand side of this porch is placed the marble foundation-stone, the scroll, containing the following inscription, being held by a sculptured female figure, typifying the City of London, in bas-relief:—

This Stone  
Was laid October xxvii, A.D. M.DC.C.C.LXX.  
by  
William Sedgwick Saunders, M.D., D.L.,  
Chairman of the Library and Museum Committee  
Of the Corporation of the City of London,  
During the Mayoralty of  
The Rt. Hon. Robert Besley.  
Horace Jones, Architect.

Passing through the porch, the lower hall is reached, from which a short flight of steps descends to the Museum. On the right of this hall is a room fitted up with cases around the walls, for the reception of books, &c., and on the left, through an oak screen, is a staircase, executed in stone, the balustrade being pierced with open tracery. The entrance to the Reading Room is from the upper landing, and the Library is entered through the hall, affixed to the wall of which is a brass tablet, commemorative of the erection of the building, inscribed as follows:—

This Building was erected by the  
Corporation of London  
Under the direction of a Committee  
Specially appointed by the Court of Common Council.

W. Sedgwick Saunders, M.D., F.S.A., Chairman.  
Sir David Salomons, Bart., M.P., Alderman.  
Henry Aaron Isaacs, F.S.S.  
Henry De Jersey, Deputy.  
Charles Reed, M.P., F.S.A.  
William Hartridge.  
William Cave Fowler, Deputy.  
John Hampden Hale.  
Charles John Todd.  
James Ebenezer Saunders, F.L.S., F.G.S.  
John Staples.  
Henry Lawrence Hammack.  
Richard Nathaniel Phillips, D.C.L., F.S.A.  
Commenced, 1870. Finished, 1872.  
Horace Jones, V.P.R.I.B.A., Architect.



The building has been erected from the designs and under the superintendence of Sir Horace Jones, the Architect to the Corporation. The style of architecture is perpendicular Gothic, in accordance with that of the Guildhall. The work of the new Library was commenced in 1870, the contractors being Messrs. George Trollope and Sons, and completed some two years later, when it was formally opened by a *Conversazione*, with an exhibition of Antiquities and works of Art. A valuable Catalogue of the miscellaneous contributions exhibited on this occasion was compiled at the time by the Librarian.

Considering the purpose of the building, the stained glass in it required a special treatment, so as to admit as much light as possible consistent with a decorative effect; consequently, a large amount of white glass has been introduced, and the colour concentrated. It is said that stained glass should be so rendered as to be rather an auxiliary to the architecture with which it is united, than an independent object of interest; and it should be employed rather to subdue and enrich the light which it transmits, than to serve as a means of displaying imitative or academic Art, which is often obtrusive: or, in other words, fitness rather than splendour.

The large North Window of seven lights, divided by a transom, is the gift of some of the inhabitants of the Ward of Aldersgate. It has two major pictures, in rich colours, and eight single figures. The subject occupying the three upper centre lights is the introduction of printing into England, and represents Caxton and his press in the Almonry at Westminster; the principal or centre figure being the great printer showing to King Edward IV, and the Abbot of Westminster, his works. Wynkyn de Worde is engaged at the press, pulling a proof; Pynson is carrying a form; in the background, a boy is seen mulling the ink.

The four side figures are Guttenberg, who was the first to conceive the idea of printing from movable type; Wynkyn de Worde, foreman to Caxton; and Pynson, one of his workmen, who succeeded him in his business, and subsequently became the King's printer; also Bishop Coverdale, the translator of the Bible. The treatment of these figures is what is termed "grisaille," so as to complement, or set off, the colours in the centre group. The subject in the three lower centre lights is Richard de Bury, Bishop of Durham, purchasing the Library of the Abbot of St. Albans for fifty pounds' weight of silver. This also is in rich colours, and the four side figures, like the upper ones, are in "grisaille," on a silver quarry ground. The figures represent Whittington and Gresham, both founders of Libraries in this City, with the addition of Stow and Milton. Below is a representation of the old Aldersgate.

The Clerestory contains twenty-eight windows, having two lights each, in which are represented the symbols of the Planets, also Night and Day, upon a quarry ground.

The aisles are lighted by fourteen windows of three lights each, having the signs of the Zodiac, also on quarry grounds, with labels running across, containing the following Proverbs, or Aphorisms, taken from the works of Shakespeare:

Be Just and Fear Not.  
Daring, Bold, and Venturous.  
Speaking in Deeds.

Witty without Affectation.  
Heaven has an End in all.  
Mine Honour is My Life.



Be comfort to my Age.  
 God shall be my Hope.  
 Seek the Light of Truth.  
 The Time of Life is Short.  
 Be that you are.  
 Truth is Virtue.  
 I am not Bookish.  
 All within the Will of God.  
 Swift as a Shadow.  
 Virtue is Beauty.  
 Do Wrong to None.  
 Deep within the Books of God.  
 Use the Olive with the Sword.  
 God gives you Joy.  
 Learning is but an Adjunct.  
 Digest Things rightly.  
 Roses have Thorns.  
 Things Won are Done.  
 Time's the King of Men.  
 Kindness, nobler ever than Revenge.  
 Order gave all Things View.  
 A Thousand Moral Paintings.  
 The Will of Heaven be Done.  
 Sermons in Stones.  
 Books in the Running Brooks.  
 What, at your Books so hard?  
 Read on this Book.  
 Words sweetly placed.

Achievement is Command.  
 They are set here for Examples.  
 Good Angels guard Thee.  
 Live all Free Men.  
 Hath all the good gifts of Nature.  
 Resolve what Tales I have told you.  
 An honest Chronicler.  
 It was a worthy Building.  
 Ignorance is the curse of God.  
 God bids us do Good for Evil.  
 Sweet Mercy is Nobility's True Badge.  
 As true as Steel.  
 Learn of the wise.  
 Men's eyes were made to Look.  
 Audacious without Impudency.  
 Here is my Journey's End.  
 There is a History in all Men's Lives.  
 An honest Mind, and Plain.  
 My Library was Dukedom large enough.  
 My books I prize above my Dukedom.  
 I cannot hide what I am.  
 You Two are Book men.  
 Truth will come to Light.  
 Take Counsel of some Wiser Head.  
 In Purity of Manhood stand upright.  
 Life's but a Walking Shadow.  
 True as Truth's Simplicity.

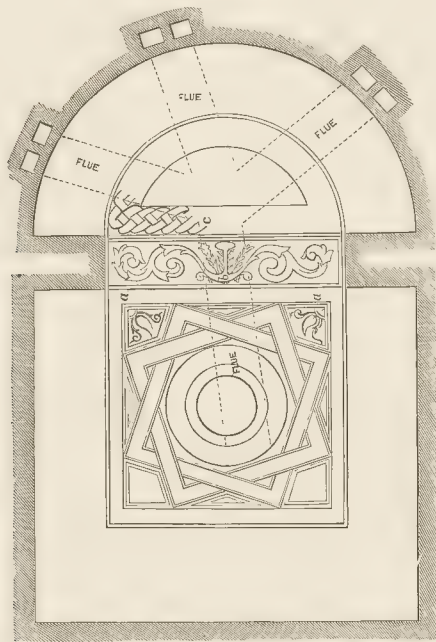
The idea of displaying the heraldic bearings of those important City Companies whose Arms are not set up in Guildhall, originated with the Council of the London and Middlesex Archæological Society, and its suggestion to the Companies to contribute this valuable addition to the ornamental glazing in the Library met with a ready response. The Committee appointed by the Society to effect this object consisted of Charles John Shoppee, F.R.I.B.A., Alfred White, F.S.A., F.L.S., Joshua W. Butterworth, F.S.A., Henry Campkin, F.S.A., and the Honorary Secretaries of the Society, Edward W. Brabrook, F.S.A., and John Edward Price, F.S.A., who received the cordial co-operation of the New Library and Museum Committee, presided over by Dr. W. Sedgwick Saunders, F.S.A. The best authorities were consulted as to the precedence of the several Companies, and the correct blazon in each case has been obtained from the Heralds' College through a member of the Society, John de Havilland, F.S.A., York Herald. Several of the Companies are entitled to supporters, but they are of necessity omitted. The windows contain seven lights and tracery. The Royal Badges, with conventional ornaments, are displayed. Each of the seven lights contain the armorial bearings, helmet, crest, mantlings, and motto of the Companies placed in the following order:—First row.—Dyers, Brewers, Leathersellers, Pewterers, Barbers, Cutlers, and Bakers. Second row.—Wax Chandlers, Tallow Chandlers, Armourers and Braziers, Girdlers, Butchers, Saddlers, and Carpenters. Third row.—Cordwainers, Founders, Broderers, Coopers, Joiners, Cooks, and the Stationers. A desire having been expressed by other Companies that their Arms should appear, arrangements were made for their

insertion in the window upon the principal staircase, and, as soon as a sufficient number of applications had been received, the designs were inserted, comprising the Arms of the following of the minor Livery Companies:—Painter-Stainers, Plumbers, Poulterers, Bricklayers, Scriveners, Turners, Loriners, Bowyers, Spectaclemakers, Wheelwrights, Masons, Coachmakers, Glass-Sellers, Clockmakers, and Plasterers.

The number of works in the Library is estimated to exceed 60,000. Several Libraries have entrusted their collections to the care of the Corporation, viz.:—The Dutch Church, Austin Friars, the Clockmakers' Company, the Salomons' collection, and—more recently—the Remembrancer has presented his Law Library.

Museum.

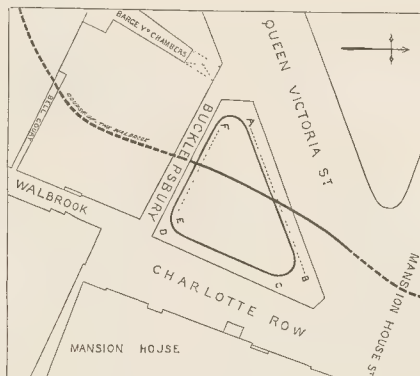
Immediately below the Library is the Museum. It is approached from the former by a flight of stone steps and has at the same time an entrance from Basinghall Street. It is on a level with the ancient crypt of Guildhall, with which it is in communication. It is a building divided into nave and aisles, is 83 feet long and 64 feet wide, and has an elevation of 20 feet. It is rich in antiquarian treasures. In it may be found the un-



and the removal of the Guildhall Chapel. These were presented to the Corporation, and formed a nucleus of what now exists. Since that period there have been frequent

written record of the history of the City, and the vast number of objects which are preserved would the better be able to tell their silent tale, were it possible for them to be more widely distributed than they are. There was, as is well known, indeed in the memory of antiquaries still living, a time when the collection of antiquities possessed by the Corporation of the City of London, was unworthy of them, and scarcely worth examination for the purpose of study, whereas now it is gratifying to know that in spite of all the difficulties there must ever be in saving what is constantly being discovered in the various excavations, the collection now classified at Guildhall will bear favorable comparison with those preserved in any of the local museums of this country. The first attempt to form such a collection was in the year 1829, when a large number of interesting objects discovered in the course of excavating for the New Post Office in St. Martin's-le-Grand, the new London Bridge, the Royal Exchange,

accessions, both by way of gifts as well as by the purchase of collections from private individuals. On entering the museum the first most striking object to attract attention is the magnificent Roman tessellated pavement fixed against the wall. It is all but perfect and one of the finest specimens of mosaic floors common to Roman buildings. It was found in Bucklersbury, about 19 feet from the level of the roadway, at a short distance from the course of the stream known as Walbrook, and parallel therewith. In form it is a parallelogram 13 feet wide and 12 feet 6 inches long, inclusive of a semi-circular portion at its northern end of 7 feet 3 inches diameter, making its total length about 20 feet. It was enclosed by walls of brick and tile, with blocks of chalk and ragstone, about eighteen inches thick. These rested upon a chalk foundation, laid on square wooden piles pointed at the end and from 3 to 4 feet long. In the wall surrounding the recess there were at intervals upright flues connected with the hypocaust below, the whole being the arrangement for warming the apartment. This is shown by the accompanying diagram which well illustrates in addition the flues below the floor. A second woodcut shows the site where the pavement was discovered and its relation to the course taken by the ancient stream.



There are also other examples of Roman mosaic discovered in Cheapside, Leadenhall Street and other places.

One of the familiar objects in the Museum for some years, is the group of sitting figures discovered some forty years ago in the course of excavation for sewers in Crutched Friars, and represents three female figures seated, and bearing in their laps baskets containing what has been usually described as fruit, and the group is presumed to be a representation of the *Deæ Matres*, or Mother Goddesses of the Roman age, and similar to those frequently illustrated by sculptures found along the line of the Roman wall in Northumberland and elsewhere. Its massive character and the great depth at which it was found, associated with the debris of Roman buildings, point to the conclusion that it had not been brought to the site as building material, but had belonged to a building or *sacellum*, one which was probably succeeded in later days by the Christian Church of St. Olave, Hart Street, in Tower Ward. In the Pagan mythology of old time, such figures were intended to impersonate the three goddesses or mothers, who were presumed to preside over woods and fields, pre-arranged the fates of individuals, and dispensed the blessings of Providence to man. Another interesting relic is the sepulchral altar bearing an

inscription of great interest. It was discovered in the year 1806, near to the London Coffee House, on Ludgate Hill, thus marking as a sepulchral monument the limits of the Roman City at the time. The inscription records the early death of an exemplary young wife, who died at the age of nineteen years.

D.M.  
CL. MARTI  
NAE AN XIX  
ANENCLE  
TVS  
PROVINC  
CONIVGI  
PIENTISSIMAE  
H. S. E.

This describes how Claudia Martina was the most dutiful and pious wife of Anencretus Provincialis, and that he erected the memorial to her on the site of sepulture. There are also in the collection some interesting examples of Sarcophagi or tombs typical of the various forms selected by the Romans. The marble coffin found at Clapton is the most interesting of the series. It is about 6 feet 3 inches long, 1 foot 3 inches wide, and 1 foot 6 inches deep—the thickness being about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The front is ornamented with a fluted pattern, the channels being filled to a third of their height with a bead. These channels, etc., are all designed in accordance with the rules of the Corinthian order. In the centre of the coffin is a medallion, containing a portrait or bust of the deceased. The whole is thoroughly classical in design, the attitude and position of the fingers being characteristic of Roman work. Beneath the figure are three lines of what were well-cut letters; they are nearly illegible. The last is probably MARITIMVS, a name familiar in Roman inscriptions. The other tombs are of a more simple kind, plain in form and cut from solid blocks of oolitic stone. One was discovered near to Fleet Lane, at a depth of twelve feet, on the margin of the bank of the Old Fleet River. It contained the remains of a skeleton when found. Near to these tombs there is an interesting piece of masonry illustrating, better than can any written description, the uniformity with which the Roman architects worked in the construction of the walls, both when for the protection of their cities or for the public structures enclosed therein. It was discovered among the important remains of Roman buildings brought to light when Leadenhall Market was rebuilt by the Corporation. Of sculptures belonging to the Roman period, the most interesting are those found within the last few years, in the course of excavations, which have revealed no less than three of the bastions belonging to the City wall.<sup>1</sup> It has been shown these had for their foundations huge masses of statuary, architectural fragments and other sculptured blocks, the debris of earlier Roman buildings. It is unnecessary to give but briefly a description of some of the principal objects found, although there is scarcely a stone among the large collection now accessible to the student but what has an interest of its own. The most important

<sup>1</sup> "On a Bastion of the City wall," by J. E. Price, F.S.A., 1878.



of the series is a statue of a Roman soldier discovered in the first of the three bastions excavated, viz., that in Camomile Street, Bishopsgate, ten years since. The annexed woodcut, taken from a photograph, well illustrates the figure. This is seen enclosed in a recess or niche, which is not only indicated by the portion of stone that rises above the left shoulder, but by the debased Corinthian pilaster upon the same side—this, with an arched or semi-circular canopy connecting the two, was probably repeated on the other. To the right of this pilaster there is a hole or cavity in the side, doubtless cut for the insertion of an iron cramp or bar to keep the monument in position.

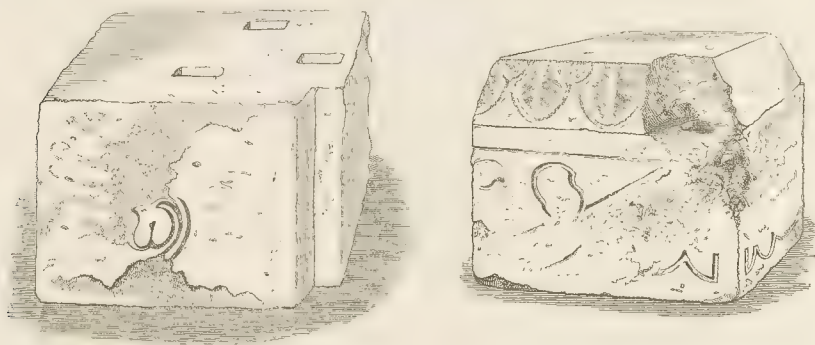
The figure illustrates a time-honoured practice, familiar to ourselves, of setting up within the City representations of individuals who had in their lifetime been distinguished in its service. This particular statue may have either been portion of a sepulchral monument or been attached to a public building; in either case it probably represents an official once noted for his military career, but one who, retiring from the service, became a civilian, a personage equal in importance, and one probably associated with the magistracy of Londinium. That

a portrait has been intended by the sculptor is evidenced by the details, the heavy head, cropped hair, the depression in the temples, thinness of the cheeks and projecting eyes, together with the nose, which, though broken and injured, was clearly wide instead of thin, are indications of an attempt, at any rate, of portraiture.



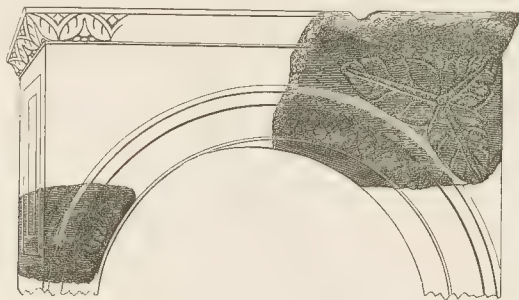
The costume as represented by the artist is not devoid of interest, the figure is clothed with the *pænula*, or civilian's cloak, a dress worn over the tunic, and adapted more particularly for long journeys or for use in cold or wet weather; from the manner in which the drapery is disposed across the shoulders, it is clear that this soldier had his right arm uplifted, and that in his hand he grasped either a spear or standard. This position exposes the tunic or undercoat beneath, the waistband and girdle are also shown, together with the sword suspended from the belt. In the left hand is a novel object, and from its presence we are enabled to understand the position which the individual had filled; he holds a series of tablets similar to those used by the ancients for writing purposes. These are suspended by cords fastened probably to a strap, and they represent the *tabellæ* kept by the owner for some special and official purpose, evidence exists as to what this was. A comparison with similar figures in the museums on the Continent leads to the opinion that our figure represents a "Signifer," or standard bearer in the Roman Army. It was a practice in the Roman Legions to keep a record of the accounts of the moiety of the donatives of each cohort, as deposited by military law, *apud signa*, each man's half of his donatives being saved up for him, to be re-delivered when he left the army honourably. Such accounts in connection with these donatives were kept by the "Signifer," and the account-keeping, inasmuch as it required education and character, redounded much to the credit of the position enjoyed by such an official. In the museum at York is a memorial to a "Signifer," or standard bearer of the ninth legion, but so far as our City is concerned, this statue may be looked upon as unique. It stands by itself among London discoveries and is one that possesses an especial interest.

Associated with it were numerous sculptured blocks of stone, belonging doubtless to the monument of which the figure had formed the principal object, such massive sepulchres and cenotaphs having been doubtless as common to Roman Britain and its many cities as they were to those associated with Imperial Rome. The traveller on the great Appian way which leads to Ostia from the walls of the Eternal City, meets with such memorials, and the ruins of them abound in great abundance on either side of the roadway. They are indeed



most striking objects and full of interest for the antiquary. The accompanying engravings show two of such fragments. From one or two other pieces we have been enabled to imagine

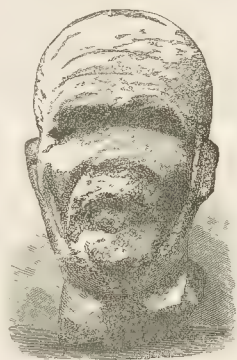
the forms assumed by the niche beneath which the statue was placed. These fragments are in the Museum, and the annexed woodcut gives the form of the canopy as restored.



Second only in interest to this statue is the figure of a lion represented by the sculptor as having overpowered by its spring either another lion or an animal of inferior strength, like the statue of the standard bearer, it is carved from oolitic stone. It doubtless has formed part of a sepulchre of large dimensions, possibly resting on the cornice of a building or served as an ornamental finish to a tomb. Its meaning, if such it has, is probably to symbolise conquest, and intended to illustrate the existence of a power to which all creation must give way. Such representations are not uncommon among monumental sculptures associated with the worship of Mithras, an oriental cult greatly recognised in the declining days of the Roman Empire.



Another curious relic from the same locality is a piece of sculpture which is intended to represent an elderly man for, though roughly treated, there is the wrinkled forehead, depressed cheeks, together with a generally worn and haggard expression of the countenance all indicative of age, but little hair is shown, and this is closely cut. It is somewhat suggestive of the short curled hair of the negro race, the peculiarity certainly favours the opinion that a portrait of an African was intended although it is possible for the resemblance to be accidental and merely due to the broken condition of the face. There are also, in connection with this wonderful collection of classic sculpture, fluted shafts and pilasters, mitred and weathered mouldings, cornices, and a curious fragment adorned with an enriched cavetto of bold leaf and petal ornament carved in *basso relievo*, and designed in imitation of the tongue-and-tassel border so familiar in Roman pottery.





The following are additional illustrations of some of the many objects, for the most part architectural, which made up the foundations of this particular bastion of the



old City Wall. Since these were discovered, the sculptures found, beneath two other bastions, have been set out in the Museum. They are of equal interest, and indeed all point to the presence, in days gone by, of a large number of monuments, the broken fragments of which were too heavy to remove to any distance

—so were utilised by the architects and builders of the time as materials for later structures, and to this circumstance alone is their preservation due.

The fragments lately found, and now added to the collection, viz., the interesting series from Bevis Marks have not yet been described, nor have any engravings been published of them. In addition to some interesting statuary with portions of friezes, representing thereon funeral scenes and other subjects; various inscriptions, or portions thereof, have been exhumed. These latter may be briefly mentioned. There are four and the letters cut upon the respective stones are:—



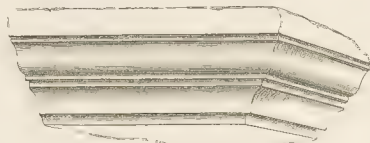
IVL  
S  
DO

AVI  
NTIO  
RLXX

CANDIDI

ET MEMORIA  
ELIAE NVMIDI  
NTISSIMA FEMI  
RELIQVA CAV.

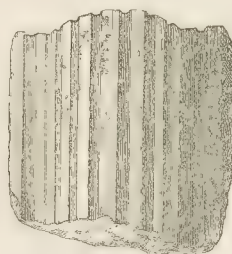
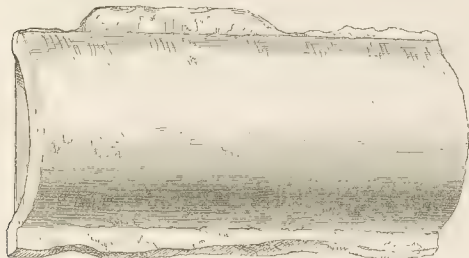
With the exception of the third, all may be taken as associated with sepulchres. Doubtless, above the first was the familiar [D.M.], the Dedication to the Gods. And then the name of the defunct Julius. The Do in the last line may be interpreted as Do(MO), having reference to his birthplace, the second refers to one AVI(DIVS) (A)NTIO(CHVS) ANNO(R)



lxx, *Annor* being the abbreviation of *Annorum*, and the inscription thus rendered would be presuming the [D.M.] to have been placed above—"To the Divine Shades of *Avidius Antiochus* of seventy years (of age)." The third is probably a centurial stone, and having a reference to the Century of *Candidus*. The fourth is evidently a tombstone, the inscription commenced [D.M.] ET MEMORIAE, the name of the deceased lady commemorated is as follows: AELIAE NVMIDIAE (or *Numidia*) or possibly *Cornelia*, the third line would



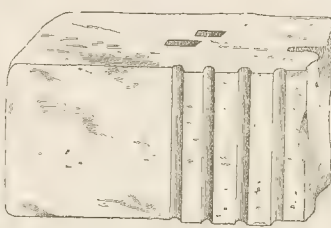
be *Pientissimæ Feminae*. Therefore, subject to further investigations, we may read the inscription as a memorial "To the Divine Shades and to the memory of Aelia (or Cornelia)



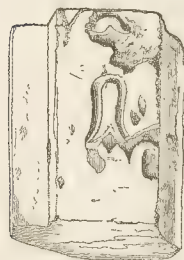
Numidia." If the word *Pientissimæ* be admitted we should have, in addition, "a most dutiful woman."



One of the most important acquisitions, which has recently been added, is the highly interesting collection of Roman antiquities, discovered some fourteen years since



in the course of excavations for the premises of the National Safe Deposit Company, near to the Mansion House. This unique collection was presented to the Corporation by the Metropolitan Board of Works, and it enjoys a special interest from there being no question as to the genuine character of the objects found, or as to the site on which they were discovered. The collection is preserved intact, and apart from the miscellaneous objects so carefully arranged and classified in the Museum by W. H. Overall, F.S.A., the whole of this particular collection represents objects, chiefly of a domestic character, once in



daily use with the inhabitants of Roman London. They found their way, as in modern

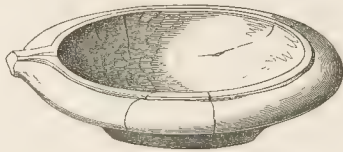


times does the debris of our households, into the river bed. The whole came from the Walbrook, and to their presence in moist and boggy soil may be ascribed the excellent preservation in which they are. A series of coins, ranging in consecutive order from the reign of Agrippa, B.C. 13 to B.C. 9, to Antoninus Pius A.D. 138 to A.D. 161. The Samian, Upchurch, Durobrivian, Salopian and other Pottery may be also mentioned, as affording specimens perfect and fragmentary, of almost every variety of earthenware familiar to the Italian Potters.



Of the most familiar forms of Samian pateræ and cups which are among the collection, the above are selected as types of the respective sizes of these vessels; it is but necessary to remark that they are of all dimensions varying from a diameter of 2 inches only by 1 in depth to a width of from 10 to 11 inches. The vessel upon which appears a Lion's head serving the purpose of a spout is a mortarium, studded

inside with silicious particles for the purpose of trituration. There are other forms of this description of cooking vessel made from a light coloured clay, of which the Museum possesses numerous examples :—



The mythical story of Romulus and Remus, a favourite legend with the Romans, also appears upon one of the Samian bowls, relieved by fanciful scrolls of foliage, and it is repeated all round the vessel. Although a subject frequently selected for the ornamentation of coins and medals, especially of the later Emperors, its illustration is by no means familiar on Roman pottery.



CONSTANTINUS MAGNUS.

ELAGABALUS.  
(Found at Jerusalem.)

CONSTANTINUS MAGNUS.

As one of the most popular stories connected with heathen mythology it is well known. In the present instance the twins as suckled by the wolf are alone seen, but there are examples, and one in the Roach Smith Collection in the British Museum, which gives a complete illustration of the tale, viz., the presence above the figures of the *Picus*, or Woodpecker, familiar to readers of Ovid,<sup>1</sup> as the bird who contributed to the daily sustenance of the infant twins. Although the bird is absent in the present case, it is represented in compartments just above the figure of the wolf, and worked into the design selected for the principal ornamentation of the bowls. It measures 10 inches in diameter by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  deep, and has a label across the bottom bearing the potter's name—

MARINVS. F.

Of the embossed or ornamented Samian ware there is a large representative collection. On the broken bowls and fragments are innumerable illustrations of mystical subjects. Gladiatorial combats, fanciful designs, hunting scenes, animals and birds interspersed with representations of the fruit and foliage of the vine. Others tell of the sports and combats of the arena, for example, on a fragment of one of the upright bowls appears a representation



<sup>1</sup> Ovid's "Fasti," lib. iii, l. 53.

of the closing scene in a gladiatorial fight. The two figures are distinct, and not together as they are so often seen. The victor, armed with his curved sword, has his shield uplifted and is prepared to strike. The other, armed in like fashion, is kneeling and imploring mercy at the hands of the spectators; those who wished his death would turn their thumbs towards their breasts, as a signal to the opponent to stab him, others, anxious to spare his life, turned their thumbs downwards, as a signal of dropping the sword.<sup>1</sup>



Upon another fragment is the subject illustrated by the annexed woodcut. It is a variety of the well-known illustration of that particular form of combat practised by the *retiarius* and *secutor* of ancient times. Numerous examples could be quoted of its presence on Mosaic pavements, both in this country and elsewhere, the most recent being a good typical representation upon one of the pavements now preserved at the Roman Villa, discovered a few years ago, near Brading, in the Isle of Wight.



Other subjects transmit to us many fanciful stories of Pagan mythology, for example, the wolf and the crane—the seventh fable of Æsop—may be specified. There is likewise the figure of a juggler, attired like one of modern times, he is skipping with a rope. In another instance, a modern pastime survives, viz., that of battledore and shuttlecock.



There are also representations of musical instruments, for example, one figure is playing upon the lyre, and another, a votary of Bacchus or Cybele, is in the act of clashing the cymbals.



Of Amphoræ, funereal urns and lamps, there are many fine examples, some specimens of the latter bear upon them ornamental figures, descriptive of legends, derived from a classic source. In connection with the lamps, mention should be made of two examples of clay moulds which have been employed in the fabrication of such objects.



These are of great rarity, and indeed, with the exception of the lamp actually discovered in the kiln found by Conyers<sup>2</sup> in St. Paul's Churchyard, they afford the only evidence there is as to the home manufacture of such articles.



Though not the same mould the figures represent both the upper and lower portion, thus indicating the manner in which such were used. In one appears the mortices, and in the other the corresponding tenons are clearly seen.

<sup>1</sup> "Juvenal," iii, 86. Commentary by J. B. Mayor, 1872, p. 18.

<sup>2</sup> In the year 1675. Sloane MSS. British Museum, 958, fol. 105.



Of Lamp appendages there are some interesting specimens. One here selected illustrates an object of great rarity. It is of bronze, and is an instrument for trimming Roman Lamps. There is a small chain attached by which it was fastened to the lamp. It is somewhat difficult to describe the manner in which it was used, the pointed end was probably for raising the wick, and the projections for removing hardened crust. Though rarely met with in this country, such trimmers are often found among Roman remains abroad.



A good example is figured in La Chausse's *Grand Cabinet Romain*, p. 94, Lampe v: and in Montfaucon's<sup>1</sup> *Antiquité Expliquée* there is a figure of a bronze lamp suspended by a chain, and from the lamp there hangs a trimmer of this character.



The annexed woodcut illustrates two earthenware objects which are equally uncommon. They are about three inches in diameter and rather more than two inches deep, each has a small raised socket in the centre. They are candlesticks, and seem admirably suited to that purpose. Candles of wax, pitch, or tallow with rushes for wicks were known to the Romans. An interesting specimen was discovered some years ago in an old lead mine at Shelve Hill, it had evidently been left there by one of the Roman miners many centuries ago. There is further testimony to the use of candles recorded by the satirist Juvenal. He extols the economy of the poor man endeavouring to be satisfied with his candle and moderate its wick.<sup>2</sup>

"Me, quam luna solet deducere, vel breve lumen  
Candelæ, cujus dispenso et tempero filum,  
Contempnit."

Among other objects of exceptional interest is a curious series of what are termed "Hipposandals" or horse shoes of iron; they were principally discovered in the course of excavations for the Broad Street Station of the North London Railway in Liverpool Street.



They average from seven to eight inches long, and have what may be termed handles, the sides flanked by clips and one end terminating in a hook. Up to a recent period they belong to a class of objects to which little attention has been devoted, they are now, by the aid of comparison with similar examples abroad,

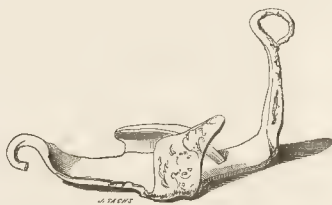
believed to have been fabricated for the use of mules or horses having tender or diseased

<sup>1</sup> Montfaucon, vol. v, p. 212, part 153, also plates 139 and 150.

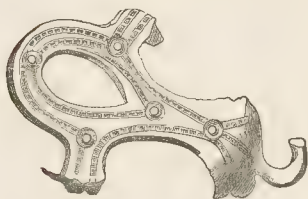
<sup>2</sup> Satire 111, 286.

feet, or for temporary employment on moist or boggy soils and were attached to the hoof by straps or strings. C. Roach Smith, F.S.A., writing of a specimen in his own collection gives the foregoing as a reasonable suggestion and supports it by a quotation from Catullus (xvii, 25) in which that writer speaks of a mule leaving its iron *solea* or shoe in the mud,

"In gravi derelinquere ceno,  
Terream ut soleam tenaci in voragine mula."



From this it is clear that the shoe was not one affixed by nails, but one permanently bound on, and—from the context—one apparently used for soft or quaggy land.<sup>1</sup> In the late Lord Londesborough's collection was a richly ornamented specimen from Stony Stratford, and a still better example was exhumed some years ago during the re-building of



Blackwater Bridge at Coggeshall, in Essex, associated with Roman debris. It is decorated with beaded bands and impressed circles wrought with the hammer



upon its under surface. There are also many interesting specimens of a "Hipposandals" in the British Museum, chiefly from the Continent, one may be specially mentioned as serving to demonstrate the use to which such objects were applied. It shows traces of wear and has an aperture in the centre around which has been placed a strip of iron, in form, resembling a modern horse shoe. This was fastened on to the original in a separate piece.

Of miscellaneous objects, such as glass, embossed and plain, implements of iron, used by the artificers of the time, spindles for spinning wool or flax, portions of head gear, bolts, chisels, brooches, needles, pins, locks, and keys, there is not only in this particular case a typical collection, but highly valuable and interesting examples of each respective class. In connection with the Roman section, no better collection of inscribed tiles can be referred to than is here preserved. They are valuable inasmuch as they are all of local interest. One of the latest acquisitions is that taken from a portion of the City Wall, lately uncovered in Warwick Lane, Newgate Street, in the course of excavations for the new Hall of the Cutlers' Company, and presented to the Corporation

<sup>1</sup> "Illustrations of Roman London," C. R. Smith, F.S.A., p. 146.

by that body. It is a tile of the ordinary Roman make, measures 17 by 12 inches by about  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch thick. Upon it are a series of letters inscribed by means of a pointed instrument. These are as follows:—

AVSTALIS  
DIBVS .. II  
VAGATVRSIB  
COTIDIM.

The meaning of this is somewhat obscure, but the explanation given by C. Roach Smith, F.S.A., is reasonable, and doubtless a correct one. He views it as a fugitive comment by one workman upon another—just as we see jokes scribbled with their

meaning if any, limited to the narrow local influence of the writer—and that it means "Austalis wanders off (from his work) by himself to the gods every day." It is unfortunate that the letters after DIBVS are mutilated, otherwise the inscription is complete.



In addition to the inscribed tiles there are many scored with geometrical figures or small squares, worked with a diamond pattern. There is one which indicates a rude attempt at portraiture. It would seem that the intention was to represent the head of Medusa, one of the Gorgons, celebrated for her beauty and flowing locks, which were afterwards changed to serpents by Minerva. The locks with the rest of the design have been executed on the tile when soft, and been entirely done with the finger, the course of which may be at once detected on the original. The indentation for

the mouth is a perfect impression of one of the fingers of the designer, though of rougher character. It resembles the sculptured head on the tympanum of the temple dedicated to Minerva at Bath, on which serpents are entwined with the curling hair in an



ingenious and artistic manner. The present figure was doubtless sketched off in a moment of fun by some youthful fabricator of Roman tiles, to whose mind representations of Minerva were familiar, either in the spirit of caricature, or as a rude effort to delineate the characteristics of the Gorgon's head. There are also pieces of flue and hypocaust tiles, all ornamented in a variety of ways, many of these designs, as well as those elsewhere noticed, are tasteful and artistic, and they illustrate the singular practice with the Romans of decorating objects which were to be concealed from view. It indicates their love of art and their desire to carry it into practice, even in matters of every day life. These devices are said to have been scored upon the tiles with a toothed instrument when soft, and to have been merely for the purpose of making the mortar adhere more closely to them. Sometimes the flues would be so constructed as to be visible, in which case the labour spent in their decoration would not be thrown away. In many cases they were ornamented with patterns from wooden blocks. Several interesting examples are preserved in this collection.

The metal work of the ancients is well represented, both in bronze and iron, of the former there are some fine examples, especially may attention be directed to a bronze arm discovered at the bottom of a well in Seething Lane, Tower Street.



It was found in excavations connected with the construction of the Inner Circle Railway, and is a portion of a statue of a male figure, evidently of heroic size. From the position of the fingers and general contour of the arm, together with the aperture which appears in the palm of the hand, it would seem that it originally held some object. If this were a spear, it would lead to the idea that the original figure was that of a military personage, but from the attitude of rest which is suggested it would rather appear to have been a statue of some noted civilian, who bore in his hand a baton or wand, symbolical of office. The dimensions, which may be of interest for the purpose of comparison, are as follows:—

	ft.	in.
End of arm to end of thumb ... ..	1	6½
„ „ to tip of middle finger ... ..	1	6¾
Wrist to knuckle on back of hand ... ..	0	3¾
Length of thumb ... ..	0	3¾
„ middle finger ... ..	0	5¼
„ little finger ... ..	0	4½
Width of knuckles of hand ... ..	0	4
Circumference of thickest part of arm ... ..	1	2¼
„ „ wrist ... ..	0	9½

It is somewhat singular that, with the exception of the colossal head of Hadrian which was dredged from the river bed of the Thames, below Old London Bridge,



some fifty years ago, the few illustrations which have occurred since of the fact that the City of London was, during the Roman occupation, embellished with statuary and works of art, have, so far as the large bronzes are concerned, been hands only. The present is either the fourth or fifth which has been found within recent years; and when it was first brought to light it was hoped that it might prove to be the second hand of a large bronze figure, of which one hand preserved in the British Museum, and formerly in the possession of C. Roach Smith, F.S.A. (engraved in his *Catalogue of London Antiquities*, 1854, p. 6), was found in the same locality near to the Tower end of Lower Thames Street. There is, however, no connection between the two. A bronze hand and wrist of smaller dimensions is also in this collection. It was discovered in the year 1867, on the site of the old Spread Eagle, Gracechurch Street. It is the left hand, and measures, from the tip of the finger to the broken edge,  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches. The circumference of the wrist is rather over 7 inches.

There are other bronze objects equal in interest to these fragments of large figures, viz., small statuettes of Pagan divinities, a class of objects better known under the designation of "Lares" and "Penates," or household gods, who were presumed in ancient times to preside over the fortunes of the house in which they were located. Many possibly were merely adopted as ornaments, and comprised in the domestic furniture of a Roman dwelling. As an illustrative specimen is a figure of Mars, the God of War—a divinity greatly revered by the Romans—many of the altars which have been found in Britain being dedicated to his honour. He is usually represented in military costume with either shield, helmet, or spear, and small images emblematical of his peculiar attributes have been often found, especially among remains abroad.

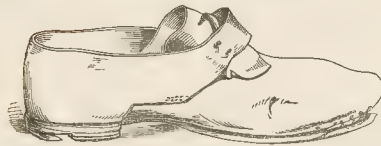


In the present instance the greaves, helmet, and other military appointments are well defined, as is the flowing hair and beard, often seen on personations of this deity. His left hand is raised above the shoulder as though holding a spear, and from the small aperture present in the hand it is probable that such a weapon was originally attached. In the right hand appears the sacrificial patera used for holding the wine generally poured over the victim or altar at the time of sacrifice. This figure was found in Bucklersbury, asso-



ciated with other relics at the time when the Mosaic Pavement previously referred to was discovered, some years since. In addition, there is in the collection a figure of Hercules, together with other divinities; similar objects in terra cotta are also preserved;

this interesting series comprises representations of the goddess Pomona, Venus, Leda and the Swan, and many others.



In leather work there are examples of the *Caliga*, or military shoe, together with those common to the household, viz., the *Calceus*, or boot; among the illustrations here presented of some of the objects it will be observed how closely the latter resembles the shoes or boots of modern days. Of ornamental sandals, there are several interesting fragments.

The invasion of the Danes in the reign of Alfred, 871-901, is illustrated by a curious Scandinavian relic. It is a portion of a sepulchral memorial stone discovered in St. Paul's Church Yard in August, 1852, at a depth of twenty feet beneath the roadway. The inscription which it bears records that one "Konal caused this stone to be laid in memory of Tuki." A skeleton was found in close proximity to the stone.

The decadence in the Potters' art finds illustrations in the Frankish and Saxon earthenware as it does in the Norman and Mediæval Pottery, which is so exhaustively represented. The tasteless forms of the bowls and pitchers and other vessels commonly used in the Middle Ages, present a striking contrast to those of earlier days.

As a typical specimen of this class of Mediæval Pottery is a curious old pitcher of the thirteenth century, discovered some years ago in excavations opposite Northumberland Alley, Fenchurch Street. It is twelve inches high, formed of light-coloured clay, and covered with a mottled glaze; its chief interest consists in the ornamentation, it being decorated with shields bearing the Arms of the ancient family of the De Clares, Earls of Gloucester.

Of this period of English History there is a large collection of objects, comprising armour, swords and daggers of all kinds, locks and keys, and one of the finest series of those curious little objects known as Signacula or Pilgrims' Signs which has, perhaps, ever been brought together.

Of Mediæval Leather Work there are many illustrations; for instance, a series of shoes marking the various changes adopted in fashion in different reigns; of the





1. Chamberlain's Office  
2. Architect's Office

EXTERIOR OF THE GUILDHALL

GUILDHALL — NORTH SIDE.

*Shewing Demolition, and Site for the New Council Chamber, 1822-83*

3. Old Exchequer Chamber  
4. Town Clerk's Office

3.

4.

1.

2.







old "Black Jack," or "Leather Bottle," there are several examples. Such were much in use during the seventeenth century, being employed for the same purposes as the wooden puncheons and firkins still carried about by farm labourers, and to which they bear a close resemblance. There are other objects in leather comprising jerkins, collars, etc., ranging from the reign of Henry VIII to James I. Many of the former are decorated and slashed according to the then prevailing style. In the sixteenth



century such jerkins were used as a covering for the quilted armour of the time, and were intended to project somewhat in front, after the manner indicated by the dress of our modern Punchinello. In the illustration the slashing is clearly shown, the apertures were for the purpose of exhibiting the undercoat beneath.

Of a later time, there are relics of Old London signs, viz., of the Boar's Head in Eastcheap, the three Magi or Kings on Ludgate Hill, the Three Crowns, Lambeth Hill, and lastly that of the George and Dragon from George Yard.

There is yet a curious piece of sculpture possessing an interest peculiar to itself, inasmuch as it is associated with the history of the famous Whittington. It illustrates and indeed gives credence to there being some truth in the old story of the Cat, which—whether true or false—will for all time form for the citizens one of the most attractive traditions connected with his career.

That a belief in the old story existed, and was cherished in his native place, is beyond dispute. Whittington came from Pauntley in Gloucestershire, and it was in Gloucester that the sculpture now preserved in the Museum was first discovered. It fell into the possession of the late Rev. Samuel Lysons, before referred to, and was by him bequeathed to the Corporation of London. At a meeting of the British Archaeological Association, held at Worcester some years ago, Mr. Lysons gave the following interesting description of this relic of the past, and its association with the

history of the renowned Lord Mayor:—"This small basso-relievo, apparently a portion of an ancient chimney-piece, or tablet, was recently dug up in Westgate Street, Gloucester, in which locality the Whittington family possessed their town house, as was the custom with most county families. We are made aware of this fact in an ancient register, or rent-roll of rents, possessions, lands, and tenements of the abbots, priors, commoners, seneschals, and other the burgesses and divers others within the municipality of Gloucester, in the year 1460, among which appears the following, translated from the Latin:—

"The Priory of Llanthony holds all those houses and buildings, with their appurtenances, in the said lane called Abbey-lane, up to the common processional way (public road) adjoining the chancel of the church of St. Nicholas, and also the tenements of Richard Whitynton, lord of the manor of Staunton, which are called Rotten-row and Asschowellys-place."

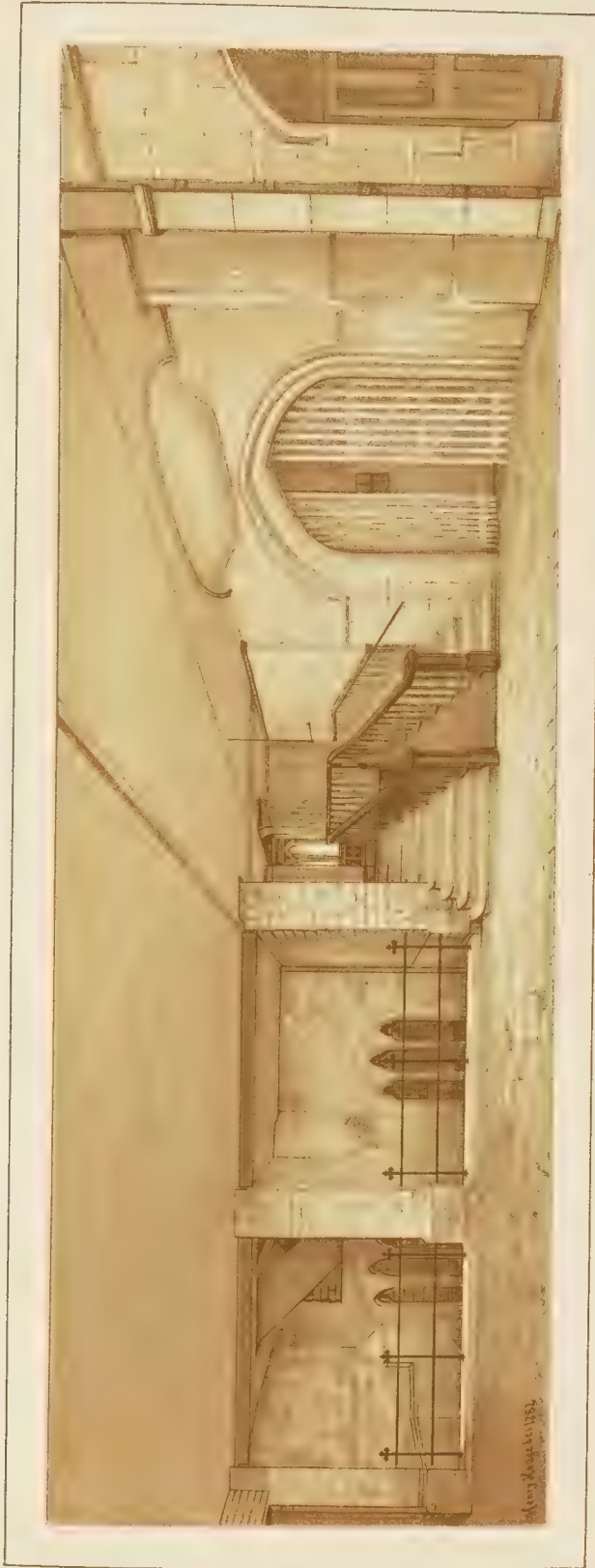
Ashwell's-place, originally the property of Thomas de Ashwell, was about the centre of the Westgate-street, Gloucester, where this stone was discovered (singularly enough it stood upon the site, also, of a Roman temple). Richard Ashewell was representative of Gloucester, 13 Richard II, and also bailiff of the same city. There is, or was, in the possession of the Corporation of Gloucester, recited in Furney's MSS., a lease (temp. Richard II), which exactly marks the spot of Ashwell's-place, being the northernmost of four houses in the parish of Trinity, in Ebruge (*i.e.*, Westgate-street). As there are only four houses in Trinity parish, which fronts the Westgate-street, it clearly indicates the house of Mr. Compton, upholsterer, in the foundations of which the stone was dug up by the labourer in the employ of the late Mr. Bonner, to whom the house then belonged. Now, if it be necessary in all cases to have contemporaneous evidence of history, I don't think we can have it more satisfactorily than in the present instance.

"The Richard Whittington here alluded to was great nephew of the renowned Lord Mayor of London, living contemporaneously with his celebrated relative, the rent-roll above quoted having been made within thirty-seven years of Dick Whittington's death, and thus bearing testimony to the fact that, however sceptical some persons may be as to the truth of the story of the cat, it was at least entertained by his own family, and commemorated by them with satisfaction. This, then, forms another instance, in addition to the four others given in my life of that model merchant of the representation of a cat in connection with Richard Whittington, executed at possibly a very early date, and showing that the story is no modern invention."<sup>1</sup>

It was Whittington's reputed wealth that led to the unwarranted disturbance of his remains after death. He was three times buried in the church of "St. Michael Pater



<sup>1</sup> "The Model Merchant of the Middle Ages," by the Rev. Samuel Lysons, M.A.

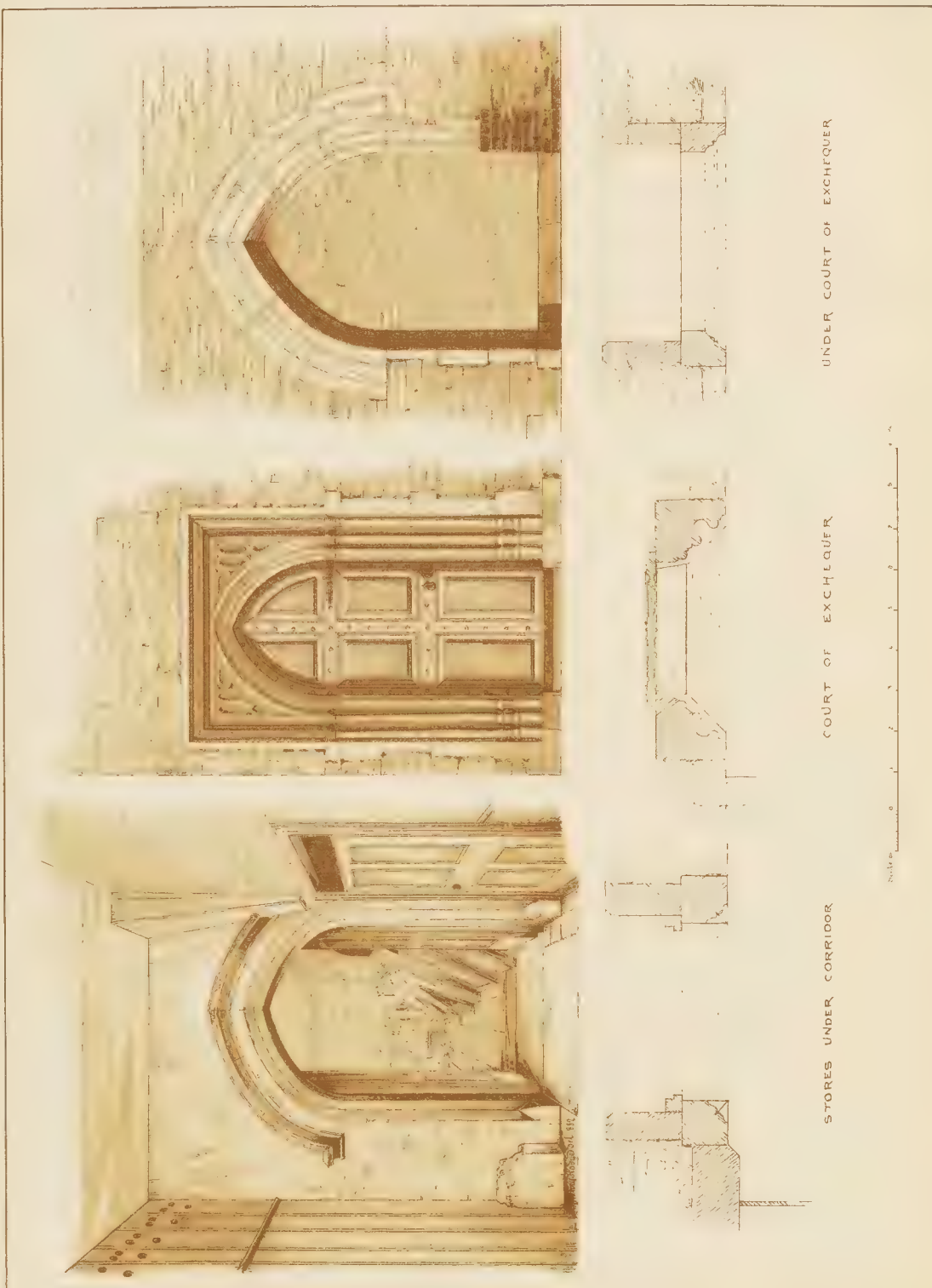


AREA UNDER CHAMBERLAIN'S COURT, GUILDHALL









Noster in the Royall," first by his executors under a faire monument, then in the raigne of Edward the Sixth, the parson of the church thinking some great riches (as hee said) to be buried with him, caused his monument to be broken, his body to be spoyled of his leaden sheet, and againe the second time to be buried. And in the raigne of Queen Mary, the parishioners were forced to take him up, to lap him in lead as afore, to bury him the third time, and to place his monument, or the like, over him againe. Whereupon this epitaph is engraven, partly erazed and imperfect:—

" Ut fragrans Nardus fama fuit iste Richardus,  
 Altificans villam, qui juste rexerat illam,  
 Flos mercatorum, Fundator Presbiterorum,  
 Sic et egenorum, testis sit cetus eorum,  
 Omnibus exemplum Barathrum vicendo molosum,  
 Condidit hoc templum Michaelis quod speciosum,  
 Regia . . . . . res rata turbiss,  
 Pauperibus Pater extiterat, Maior quater urbis,  
 Martius hunc vicit, en Annos gens tibi decit,  
 Finijto ipse dies sis gibli Christe quies. Amen.  
 Eius sponsa pia generosa probata Sophia  
 Jungitur." <sup>1</sup>

Whittington's memory was cherished long after his lamented death. As late as the reign of Edward VI, the anniversary of his decease was respectfully recognised. In the returns of the chantries belonging to the second year of this reign, the following appears. The entry is copied from the records in possession of the Mercers' Company, to which fraternity Whittington belonged:—

" Paide yerely for the obitte of Master Whittington for spicest brede, with the spices and whyte hunes and butter, with other thinges thereto apperteyninge xlii. viijd. For Perres, apples, pyskettes, chese, ale and wine, and the buttlers' fee, with other thinges xxvijs. viijd. For waxe and ringing bells, ijs. To the poore men for to offer, xiijs. To the Lord Maior of London, vjs. and viijd. To the three wardens of Mercers, vjs. and viijd. And as for priestes and clerkes, we never paid none. . . . . ixli. vjs. ijd."

The annexed illustration shows the exterior of the Hall as exposed to view at the time when the excavations were in progress, for the purpose of preparing the site of the New Council Chamber in 1882. It is from a drawing by Mr. Henry Hodge, in order to represent a comprehensive view of the buildings, foundations and their connection with the Guildhall. This clearance involved the removal of a considerable block of buildings, a portion of which are designated upon the "Plan of Guildhall" and its surroundings, A.D. 1750. "Bakehouse to Guildhall," "Town Clerk's Office," "Yard," "Chamberlain's House," and "Chamberlain's Repository." The Porch and "Area under Chamberlain's Court" are also shown.

Excavations  
 for the site  
 of the New  
 Council  
 Chamber.

These operations opened to view the north side of the Guildhall, which had been concealed for a considerable period by the contiguous buildings, and as it is again hidden by the New Council Chamber, its delineation is interesting and worth preserving. The Hall presented a very imposing appearance, five bays out of the eight being fully

<sup>1</sup> Weever's "Funeral Monuments," Edit. 1631, p. 408.

disclosed. The roof restoration, with its principal features of the hexagonal lantern crowned with the highly embellished *fleche*; the broad expanse of slate roof, crested with light ironwork, and pierced with eight fine gabled dormers, was effective. Likewise the restored turrets and pinnacles, and the enriched heads of the buttresses breaking up the horizontal line of coping.

Five of the Hall windows were brought to light. Two in the Eastern Crypt were visible, these with one other being now the only unobstructed lights. Three doorways appear on the view. That in the first bay was a convenient communication between the Chamberlain's Court and the dais of the Hall by a staircase. In the third bay, the upper opening provided access from and to the building in connection with a commodious staircase, also shown in the "Area" view. Upon the plan it will be seen that a doorway and stairs then existed, and from the evidence of a filled-in archway through the adjacent buttress, it may be deduced that stairs of earlier date, from "The Porch" closely connected the Crypt with the Hall by the north-west doorway of the East Crypt, now walled up. The lower opening is the north doorway, this was approached from the yard by stone steps between the double staircase. In the fifth bay (but not in the view) was the filled-in arch of the north-west doorway before mentioned, and above, an entrance from the Hall to the Court Porch. These afford material evidences of earlier modes of communication.

During the alterations the removal of the east wall of the Court building exposed to view the south archway, string course, window and niche. Also the south-west doorway, shown on plate of "Doorways," and the jamb and head of another ancient entrance, and also two modern others on the west side, connected with the adjacent corridor or loggia. Two blank windows are shown, which were wholly or partially concealed by panelling. Behind the plaster cornice was found the remains of an ancient string course or corbel table, probably connected with the original roof. The Porch or Lobby to the Court is seen through the arch, and the position of the Police Receiver's Office with doorways opening to the Corridor. In the basement, which was filled with earth and debris, were massive foundation walls with arches. The base of these walls was laid on the clay stratum overlaying the ballast, at 11 feet 3 inches from the level of the yard. These arched basement walls varied in thickness from 4 to 4 feet 8 inches. The materials were rag, chalk and flint. The eight basement arches, viz.: three to east, three to west, one to north and one to south walls, were of rough and irregular shape. The south arch was of unusual construction, the lower part of the opening being formed with horizontal courses. The upper part of the east basement wall was 3 feet 6 inches thick, and on both sides, about 2 feet high, faced with rag in courses, showing that the earlier level was 2 feet lower. This difference was observable at the plinths of the Hall buttresses. The upper walling varied from 3 feet 6 inches to 2 feet 10 inches. The east and west walls (except basement) had been considerably altered, especially at south end of west wall. A tracery springer was found which may have belonged to one of the windows, if not of earlier date, a length of groin rib also. Other fragments, including Purbeck marble shaft; and a piece of Norman sculpture of the sunk star pattern was taken out of the east wall of the Porch, where it had been carefully set with the ornament visible. Against the north end was found a chamber, which was filled with charcoal. It appeared to have been associated with the ovens shown on the plan "Bake House." It was against the west wall, below



the tile oven mouth; and its position is marked by a darker tint upon the view, and there the wall seemed to have been scathed by fire. It was accessible through the adjacent wall arch, by an opening in the crown of the brick-arch, and built with red bricks. The walls were one brick thick, covered with a Tudor arch, and paved with similar bricks. A well was exposed against the exterior of the west wall at the centre arch in the view. It commenced at the level of the "Measure Yard" near the north-east corner. Depth, 22 feet 6 inches, and diameter, 3 feet. It is now filled in with concrete. It was steined with worked Kentish rag and chalk, and in addition, lined up to 12 feet 6 inches with an iron cylinder.

In reference to the openings in the west wall of the Court building, commenced in 1425, it would appear that at that time there existed means of access which also served for the admission of light to the Court itself, as well as to the lower chamber. It may be considered that the building was, at that date, sufficiently isolated on all sides, although directly attached to the Hall by the Porch, built about the same time. This condition remained until the erection of the kitchens and other offices in 1501.

Distributed over the area of the site were thirteen "pits," varying in size. They were of a peculiar character, being squared, and cut into the clay. They were found at the general level of the excavation. The position of the extreme east pit was under the ditch, thus suggestive of earlier origin. The condition of the superstratum did not indicate that the holes had been sunk through that deposit, and the filling in was of similar black soil, so a higher antiquity may be assigned. In them were found, rudely deposited, the jaws and teeth of the ox and horse, bones of sheep, skulls of animals, &c.

At the base of the west wall of the Chamberlain's offices on the extreme right of the view, northward, an arch of rag and chalk, 12 feet span, was turned over a ditch or stream which had extended north and south. This condition of the soil accounts for the use of the planking and piling in the later works, the earlier being on the loam. This leafy silt lay about 8 feet below the surface, which was the level of the walls. On the north, a lesser ditch was seen. On the site (northwards) at about 2 feet 3 inches below the surface was a deposit of light brown mortar, the debris of green sandstone, pebbles, brown earth, gravel, stone, and tiles, &c., from former buildings and demolitions. Under this, and over the whole site, was made ground and the black soil as is usually found, in which were discovered a few pieces of Roman and mediæval pottery and coins.

This illustration, re-produced from a drawing executed in 1882, previous to the demolitions, represents the covered space at the south end of "The Yard," where the entrance to the Hall, the Crypt, Mr. Architect's Offices, and the passageway through the Arch to Clerk of the Works, Stores, &c., were situated. This delineation of a portion of the north wall of the Hall, with its massive buttress projections; the base of the north-east angle octagonal turret; the moulded corbelling and projection, supposed to have been the back of a fire-place in the Hall; and the two Crypt windows, is of interest as showing some of the original and unrestored features of the ancient buildings.

Area under  
Chamber-  
lain's Court.

Doorway,  
Court of  
Exchequer.

This small doorway between the Court of Exchequer and the Corridor was discovered upon the removal of the panelling which had concealed it on both sides. It was refined and delicate in design and considered an excellent example of masonry, containing a profusion of elaborate moulded details and very fine workmanship.

With this description of the latest changes and alterations, the History of Guildhall is brought up to the present time. Other improvements are in progress, and when all is finished the group of Municipal buildings will be such as the Corporation of London may well be proud of. The desire has been to sketch the history of the building generally in such chronological sequence as is possible where so many sections and variety of subjects have to be referred to; from the "Old Bury" or "Court" described by Stow as situate in Aldermanbury, up to the development of the present building, and also to trace the chief features of historical interest with which it has been connected during the lapse of many centuries. It has been thought desirable to print in full some of the Charters and other documents mentioned in the text. These will be found in the Appendix.

## APPENDIX.

## ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

(*Inquisition ad quod dampnum*, 30 *Edw. III*, No. 23. A.D. 1356.)

Edwardus Dei gracia Rex Anglie et Francie et Dominus Hibernie dilecto sibi Simoni Fraunceys Majori Civitatis sue London' et Escaetori suo in eadem Civitate salutem. Mandamus vobis quod per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de balliva vestra per quos rei veritas melius sciri poterit diligenter inquiratis si sit ad dampnum vel prejudicium nostrum aut aliorum si concedamus Petro Fanelore et Ade Fraunceys quod ipsi unum mesuagium cum pertinentiis in parochia Sancti Laurencii juxta capellam Beate Marie contiguam Gihalle London' simul cum libero introitu et exitu ad capellam predictam, et ad quendam fontem, et ad medietatem cujusdam latrine qui inter dicta mesuagium et capellam existunt, quod quidem mesuagium simul cum libero introitu et exitu ad capellam fontem et medietatem latrine predictos, iidem Petrus et Adam sibi et heredibus suis de Majore Aldermannis et Communitate London' nuper adquisierunt, dare possint et assignare custodi et capellanis cantarie in capella predicta per ipsos Petrum et Adam de novo fundate. Habend' et tenend' eisdem custodi et capellanis et successoribus suis custodi et capellanis cantarie predictae pro divinis singulis diebus in capella predicta juxta ordinationem ipsorum Petri et Ade in hac parte faciend' celebrandis imperpetuum necne, et si sit ad dampnum vel prejudicium nostrum aut aliorum, tunc ad quod dampnum et quod prejudicium nostrum, et ad quod dampnum et quod prejudicium aliorum et quorum et qualiter et quomodo, et de quo vel de quibus predictum mesuagium teneatur et per quod servicium et qualiter et quo modo, et quantum valeat per annum in omnibus exitibus juxta verum valorem ejusdem, et qui et quot sunt medii inter nos et prefatos Petrum et Adam de mesuagio predicto, et que terre et tenementa eisdem Petro et Ade remaneant ultra donacionem et assignacionem predictas et ubi et de quo vel de quibus teneantur et per quod servicium et qualiter et quo modo et quantum valeant per annum in omnibus exitibus, et si terre et tenementa eisdem Petro et Ade remaneant ultra donacionem et assignacionem predictas sufficiant ad consuetudines et servicia tam de predicto mesuagio sic dato quam de aliis terris et tenementis sibi retentis debita faciend', et ad omnia alia onera que sustinuit et sustinere consuevit ut in sectis visibus franci plegii auxiliis tallagiis vigiliis finibus redemptionibus amerciamendis contribucionibus et aliis quibuscunque oneribus emergentibus sustinend', et quod iidem Petrus et Adam in assisis juratis et aliis recognicionibus quibuscunque poni possint prout ante donacionem et assignacionem predictas poni consueverunt. Ita quod patria per donacionem et assignacionem predictas in ipsorum Petri et Ade defectum magis solito non oneretur seu graveur. Et inquisitionem inde distincte et aperte factam nobis sub sigillo vestro et sigillis eorum per quos facta fuerit sine dilacione mittatis et hoc breve. Teste me ipso apud Westm' xviii. die Maii anno regni nostri Anglie tricesimo regni vero nostri Francie decimo septimo.

(In dorso.)

Execucio istius brevis patet in Inquisicione huic brevi consueta.

Inquisicio capta coram Simone Fraunceys Majore civitatis London' Escaetore domini Regis in eadem civitate vicesimo sexto die mensis Maii anno regni regis Edwardi tercii post conquestum tricesimo per breve domini Regis huic Inquis' consutum ad inquirendum de omnibus articulis in eodem brevi contentis, per sacramentum Johannis Baltrip', Johannis de Croydon', Johannis atte Hoke, Wiffr Gorel, Thome Batour, Thome de Berkyngg', Andr' Aungewyn, Johannis Gore Foundour, Roberti le Chaundeler, Roberti Bateman, Willelmi Godrych', et Johannis de Abyndon' Tayllo'. Qui dicunt super sacramentum suum quod non est ad dampnum vel prejudicium domini Regis nec aliorum, si idem dominus Rex concedat Petro Fanelore et Ade Fraunceys quod ipsi unum mesuagium cum pertin' in parochia Sancti Laur' juxta capellam Beate Marie contiguam Gihalle London' simul cum libero introitu et exitu ad capellam predictam, et ad quendam fontem, et ad medietatem cujusdam latrine qui inter dicta mesuagium et capellam existunt,

quod quidem mesuagium simul cum libero introitu et exitu ad capellam fontem et medietatem latrine predictos, predicti Petrus et Adam sibi et heredibus suis de Majore Aldermannis et communitate civitatis predictae nuper adquisiverunt, dare possunt et assignare custodi et capellanis cantarie in capella predicta per ipsos Petrum et Adam de novo fundate. Habend' et tenend' eisdem custodi et capellanis et successoribus suis custodi et capellanis cantarie predictae pro divinis singulis diebus in capella predicta juxta ordinationem ipsorum Petri et Ade in hac parte faciend' celebrandis imperpetuum. Dicunt etiam quod predictum mesuagium tenetur de domino Rege in liberum burgagium sicut tota civitas London'. Dicunt etiam quod predictum mesuagium cum suis pertin' valet quiete per annum in omnibus exitibus duodecim denarios. Dicunt etiam quod non est aliquis medius inter dominum Regem et predictos Petrum et Adam de mesuagio predicto. Dicunt etiam quod terre et tenementa eisdem Petro et Ade remanencia ultra donationem et assignacionem predictas sufficiunt ad consuetudines et servicia tam de predicto mesuagio sic dato quam de aliis terris et tenementis sibi retentis debita facienda et ad omnia alia onera que sustinuerunt et sustinere consueverunt. Et quod iidem Petrus et Adam in assisis juratis et aliis recognicionibus quibuscunque poni possunt prout ante donationem et assignacionem predictas poni consueverunt. Et quod patria per donationem et assignacionem predictas in ipsorum Petri et Ade defectum magis solito non onerabitur in aliquo seu gravabitur. In cujus rei testimonium jur' predicti huic inquis' sigilla sua apposuerunt. Dat' London' die et anno suprad'.

(In dorso.)

Fiat pro dimidia marca.

(*Patent Roll, 20 Ric. II, p. 1, m. 34. A.D. 1396.*)

De terris datis ad manum mortuam. } Rex omnibus ad quos &c. salutem. Licet &c. de gracia tamen nostra speciali et pro viginti marcis quas custos et capellani capelle Beate Marie juxta Guyhaldam London' nobis solverunt in hanaperio nostro, concessimus et licenciam dedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est Stephano Speleman civi et mercero London' quod ipse unum mesuagium tres shopas et unum gardinum cum pertinentiis in parochia Sancti Andree Huberd' London' que de nobis tenentur in liberum burgagium sicut tota civitas London' dare possit et assignare eisdem custodi et capellanis. Habend' et tenend' sibi et successoribus suis in auxilium sustentacionis sue imperpetuum. Et eisdem custodi et capellanis quod ipsi predicta mesuagium shopas et gardinum a prefato Stephano recipere possint et tenere sibi et successoribus suis predictis imperpetuum sicut predictum est tenore presencium similiter licenciam dedimus specialem statuto predicto aut eo quod predicta mesuagium shope et gardinum de nobis tenentur in liberum burgagium ut premititur non obstantibus. Nolentes quod predictus Stephanus vel heredes sui aut prefati custos et capellani sui successores sui racione statuti predicti seu aliorum premissorum per nos vel heredes nostros justiciarios escautores vicecomites aut alios ballivos seu ministros nostros vel heredum nostrorum quoscunque inde occasionentur molestentur in aliquo seu graventur. Salvis tamen capitalibus dominis feodi illius serviciis inde debitis et consuetis. In cujus &c. Teste Rege apud Westm' primo die Julii.

(*Patent Roll, 8 Henry VI, Part 2, m. 20. A.D. 1430.*)

Pro Majore Aldermanno et Communitate civitatis London'. } Rex omnibus ad quos &c. salutem. Sciatis quod monstrantibus nobis humilibus ligeis nostris Majore Aldermannis et Communitate Civitatis nostre London' cum capella Beate Marie Virginis juxta Guyhaldam London' in qua quoddam collegium sive cantaria de quinque capellanis quorum unus est custos per cives dicte Civitatis ab antiquo sit fundat' que adeo parva stricta debilis et ruinoso existit quod iidem supplicantes et alii illic frequentius confluentes ad audiend' divina simul et devociones suas Altissimo profundend' absque magno tedio et gravi periculo diu expectare nequeunt nec audent prout vellent et tenentur ac preter solum dicte Guyhalde quam iidem supplicantes sunt et a diu fuerunt in edificando locus non habeatur competens et contiguus super quem aliam hujusmodi capellam apte largitatis edificare possint nisi solum cujusdam veteris et debilis mesuagii quod dominus Johannes Bernard' nunc custos et capellani prefati collegii occupant et inhabitant ex parte australi dicte Guyhalde situat' in parochia Sancti Laurencii ibidem. Et quod quidem mesuagium cum pertinentiis Adam Fraunceys nuper civis London' pretextu cujusdam licencie sibi et cuidam Petro Fanellor per dominum Edwardum Tercium nuper Regem Anglie, anno regni sui tricesimo facte per scriptum suum dedit concessit et assignavit adtunc custodi et capellanis cantarie predictae. Habend' et tenend' eis et successoribus suis imperpetuum sicut per licenciam et scriptum predicta plene liquet. Nos ad supplicacionem dictorum Majoris Aldermannorum et Communitatis dicte Civitatis de gracia nostra speciali per avisamentum consilii nostri concessimus et licenciam dedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quantum in nobis est prefatis Majori et Communitati quod ipse ad divini



cultus augmentum et in perpetuum memoriale status nostri regii dictam parvam antiquam capellam et dictum vetus mesuagium prosternere aliamque de novo capellam largiorem super solum ejusdem veteris mesuagii edificare ac unum collegium in eadem de quinque capellanis quorum dictus dominus Johannes Bernard' sit custos denno erigere facere fundare possint et stabilire et quod iidem custodes et capellani habeant successionem perpetuam et sint persone perpetue habiles et capaces in lege ad statum in feodo de terris et tenementis sibi et successoribus suis imperpetuum perquirere recipiendi et habendi. Et quod ipsi Major et Communitas in recompensationem dicti veteris mesuagii dare possint et assignare eisdem custodi et capellanis ac successoribus suis imperpetuum unum aliud mesuagium cum pertinentiis ad inhabitandum situatum super commune solum dicte Civitatis ex parte boreali prefate Guyhalde. Et quod iidem dominus Johannes Bernard' custos et capellani mesuagium illud cum pertinentiis a prefatis Majore et Communitate recipere et habere ac tenere possint sibi et successoribus suis custodi et capellanis divina cotidie ibidem pro statu nostro dum vixerimus et anima nostra cum migraverimus necnon pro statu et animabus fundatorum dicti antiqui collegii et aliorum juxta ordinationem dictorum supplicancium in hac parte faciendi celebraturis et facturis imperpetuum. Et ulterius de uberiori gracia nostra concessimus et licenciam dedimus eisdem domino Johanni Bernard' custodi et capellanis quod ipsi omnia alia terras et tenementa in civitate predicta et suburbis ejusdem unde custodes et capellani dicti antiqui collegii sive cantarie aliquantulum virtute alicujus licencie regie possessionati fuerunt et sunt libere ingredi possint et intrare ac terras et tenementa illa cum pertinentiis pacifice habere et tenere possint sibi et successoribus suis imperpetuum sine impetitione nostra aut heredum nostrorum vel aliorum quorumcumque et quod placitare possint et implacitari pro dictis terris et tenementis si deforcentur aut injurientur de eisdem ac in aliis causis actionibus et cur' quibuscumque statuto de terris et tenementis ad manum mortuam non ponendi edito, aut eo quod mesuagia terre aut tenementa predicta cum pertin' teneantur de nobis in burgagio sicut tota civitas London' tenetur non obstante. In cujus, &c. Teste Rege apud Civitatem suam Cantuar' x. die Aprilis.

Per breve de privato sigillo, et pro viginti solidis solutis in hanaperio.

CARTA EXECUTORUM DE DOMO QUE EST IN PAROCHIA SANCTI BENEDICTI DE WODEWERWE.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Glibertus capellanus Rector ecclesie Sancti Benedicti de Wodewerwe, Galfridus de Winton', Robertus de Winton' frater ejusdem Galfridi, et Ricardus de Stanes clericus, executores testamenti Stephani capellani de criptis, salutem in Domino. Noverit universitas vestra nos vendisse domino Ade Abbati de Osen' et ejusdem loci conventui totum illud mesuagium cum pertinentiis quod fuit predicti Stephani in parochia predictae ecclesie Sancti Benedicti inter mesuagium quod fuit Gliberti de Pankeham versus austrum et mesuagium quod fuit Stephani le Gras versus aquilonem, quod vero mesuagium predictum cum pertinentiis prefatus Stephanus capellanus in suo testamento ad vendendum disposuit. Habendi et tenendi dictis Abbati et conventui et eorum successoribus et cuicumque vel quibuscumque dare vendere invadiare dimittere vel alio modo assignare voluerint libere quiete integre bene et in pace in perpetuum. Reddendo inde annuatim canonicis de Merton quatuor solidos ad duos anni terminos scilicet duos solidos ad Pascha et duos solidos ad festum Sancti Michaelis pro omnibus serviciis exactionibus et demandis sicut melius liberius et quietius predictus Stephanus dictum mesuagium cum pertinentiis de predictis canonicis per predictum servicium habuit et tenuit. Pro hac autem nostra venditione dederunt nobis predicti Abbas et conventus viginti libras sterlingorum cum quibus acquitavimus debita predicti Stephani et complevimus testamentum secundum ipsius testatoris ultimam voluntatem. Et ut hec nostra venditio rata et stabilis in perpetuum permaneat presentem cartam sigillorum nostrorum impressione roboravimus. Hiis testibus.

CIROGRAPHUM INTER NOS ET ROGERUM DE NASINGES ET UXOREM EJUS DE UNO DENARIO ANNUO.

Omnibus Christianis ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit Frater Willelmus, misericordie divina Abbas Osen' et ejusdem loci conventus, salutem in Domino. Noverit universitas vestra nos dedisse concessisse et hac presenti carta confirmasse Rogero de Nasinges et Amicie uxori sue et heredibus ipsorum domus nostras quas habui in Londonia in parochia Sancti Benedicti de la Wodewerwe cum fundo ejusdem in longitudine et latitudine et cum omnibus pertinentiis suis in perpetuum. Reddendo inde nobis et successoribus nostris unum denarium annuum ad Pascha et capitalibus dominis feodi servicia debita et consueta, et nos et successores nostri dictas domus cum fundo et aliis suis pertinentiis prefatis Rogero et Amicie et heredibus suis contra omnes gentes warrantabimus. Et ut hec nostra donatio concessio et carte confirmatio rata sit et stabilis in perpetuum huic scripto sigillum nostrum apposimus. Hiis testibus.

## CARTA RICARDI FILII REYNERI DE OCTO SOLIDIS ANNUIS REDDITUS.

Omnibus Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ filiis Ricardus filius Reyneri salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse et concessisse et hac carta mea confirmavi in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam ecclesie Sancte Marie de Osen' terram et redditum quem Willelmus Leuricus tenuit de patre meo et de me jure hereditario in Aldermanesberia, scilicet octo solidos redditus et omne jus quod in eadem terra habui pro animabus patris mei et matris mee et antecessorum meorum et pro salute mea et meorum et specialiter pro anima Johannis fratris mei cum corpore ejus apud Osen' sepulto ad anniversarium ejus faciendum. Ita quod conventus ejusdem loci reddet inde mihi et heredibus meis annuatim duos denarios et obolum pro omni servicio infra Octabas Pasche. Et ego et heredes mei debemus acquietare terram illam versus dominum feodi de servicio quod eidem terre pertinet et eandem terram versus omnes homines predictæ ecclesie warantizare. Hiis testibus.

## CARTA THOME DE WIKE DE DOMO IN PAROCHIA SANCTI SEPULCRI ANNO REGNI REGIS EDWARDI SEXTO.

Ista carta lecta fuit et inrotulata in Hustengo London' die Lune proxima post festum Sancti Martini.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Thomas de Wik' clericus dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Deo et ecclesie Sancte Marie de Osen' et Willelmo Abbati et canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus capitale managium meum cum omnibus suis pertinenciis quod habui in parochia Sancti Sepulcri extra Newgate in suburbio Londonie. Quod managium situm est inter terram et domos domini Roberti de Ludham clerici et terram et domos Willelmi Cissoris. Et continet dictum managium in fronte secus vicum regium decem ulnas et dimidiam ulnam cum pollicibus de ulnis ferreis domini Henrici Regis tercii. Et in longitudine a terra predicti Roberti de Ludham versus orientem usque quod fuit Thome Harang versus occidentem viginti et duas ulnas et dimidiam et unum quarterium unius ulne de eisdem ulnis. Et in profundo a vico regio versus aquilonem usque ad terram predicti Roberti versus austrum decem et novem ulnas et dimidiam ulnam de eisdem ulnis. Et in latitudine in medio inter terras dicti Roberti et Willelmi septem ulnas et dimidiam ulnam de eisdem ulnis videlicet quicquid ibidem habui vel habere potui vel debui in longitudine latitudine lingnis lapidibus edificiis et rebus cunctis sine ulla diminutione. Habenda et tenenda dictis ecclesie et canonicis in puram et perpetuam elemosinam quantum ad me et heredes meos pertinet. Reddendo inde annuatim Nicholao de Balsham et heredibus suis unam libram cimini ad Pascha pro omni re que pro terra vel de terra exigi potest vel poterit in perpetuum. Et ego Thomas et heredes mei dictum managium cum pertinenciis suis prefatis ecclesie et conventui contra omnes Christianos et Judeos warantizabimus acquietabimus et defendemus in puram et perpetuam elemosinam nostram. Et ut hec mea donacio concessio et omnia supradicta perpetue firmitatis robur optineant hanc cartam sigilli mei impressione roboravi. Hiis testibus.

## CARTA WILLELMI BLUNDEL DE MESUAG' IN PAROCHIA SANCTI MICHAELIS IN HANGENLANE ET SANCTI ZACARIE.

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Willelmus Blundel clericus dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi pro me et heredibus vel assignatis meis Deo et ecclesie Beate [Marie] de Osen' et canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus et eorum successoribus totam terram cum domibus superedificatis et pertinenciis suis quam emi de Thoma de Lasceles et quam habui in parochia Sancti Michaelis de Honggenlane et in parochia Sancti Johannis Zacarie London' una cum duodecim denariis annui et quieti redditus de principiori domo adjuncta ecclesie Sancti, &c.

## CHARTER OF THE EXECUTORS OF STEPHEN, CHAPLAIN OF THE CRYPTS, CONCERNING A HOUSE IN THE PARISH OF ST. BENEDICT OF WODEWERWE.

To all the faithful in Christ to whom the present writing shall come, Gilbert the Chaplain, Rector of the Church of St. Benedict of Wodewerwe, Geoffrey of Winchester, Robert of Winchester, his brother, and Richard of Stanes, clerk, executors of the will of Stephen, Chaplain of the Crypts, greeting in the Lord. Know ye all that we have sold to Adam, lord Abbot of Oseney and to the Convent of the same place, all that messuage with its appurtenances, which belonged to the aforesaid Stephen in the parish of the aforesaid Church of St. Benedict, [lying] between the messuage which belonged to Gilbert de Faukelham towards the south and the messuage which belonged to Stephen le Gras towards the north; which messuage aforesaid with its appurtenances the aforesaid Stephen the Chaplain in his will desired to be sold. To have and to hold to the said Abbot and Convent and their successors and to anyone to whom they might wish to give, sell, pledge, demise, or in any manner assign it, freely,

quietly, wholly, well and in peace, for ever. Rendering therefor yearly to the Canons of Merton 4s. at two terms in the year, to wit, 2s. at Easter, and 2s. at the Feast of St. Michael, for all services [&c.], in like manner as the aforesaid Stephen held the said messuage with its appurtenances of the aforesaid Canons by the aforesaid service [&c.] well, freely and quietly [&c.]. For this our sale the aforesaid Abbot and Convent have given to us £20 sterling with which we have paid the debts of the aforesaid Stephen, and fulfilled the testament according to the last will of the same testator. And that this our sale may remain strong and stable for ever we have confirmed the present charter by the impression of our seals. These being witnesses.

CHIROGRAPH BETWEEN US AND ROGER OF NASINGES AND HIS WIFE CONCERNING AN ANNUAL RENT OF ONE PENNY.

To all Christians to whom the present writing shall come, Brother William, by Divine mercy, Abbot of Oseney and the Convent of the same place, greeting in the Lord. Know ye all that we have given, granted, and by this present charter confirmed to Roger of Nasinges and Amicia his wife and to their heirs our houses which we held in London in the parish of St. Benedict of Wodewereue, with the soil of the same, in length and breadth and with all their appurtenances for ever. Rendering therefor to us and our successors one penny yearly at Easter, and to the chief lords of the fee the services due and accustomed; and we and our successors will warrant the said houses with the soil and other appurtenances to the aforesaid Roger and Amicia and their heirs against all people. And that this our gift [&c.] may be strong and stable for ever we have placed our seal to this writing. These being witnesses.

CHARTER OF RICHARD, SON OF REYNER, CONCERNING AN ANNUAL RENT OF EIGHT SHILLINGS.

To all the sons of Holy Mother Church, Richard, son of Reyner, greeting. Know ye all that I have given, granted [&c.] to the Church of St. Mary of Oseney, the land and rent which William Leuric held of my father and of me, by hereditary right in Aldermanesbery, to wit, a rent of eight shillings, and all the right which I had in the same land, for the souls of my father and mother and of my ancestors and for my health, and specially for the soul of my brother John together with his body buried at Oseney to make his anniversary. So that the Convent there shall render annually to me and my heirs two pence halfpenny within the octaves of Easter for all service. And I and my heirs will acquit that land against the lord of the fee of the service which belongs to the same land, and will warrant it to the aforesaid Church against all men. These being witnesses.

CHARTER OF THOMAS DE WIKE CONCERNING A HOUSE IN THE PARISH OF ST. SEPULCHRE.

*This Charter was read and enrolled in the Hustings at London, on Monday next after the Feast of St. Martin in the sixth year of the reign of King Edward [the First].*

Know all men present and to come that I, Thomas de Wike, clerk, have given [&c.] to God and to the Church of St. Mary of Oseney and to William the Abbot, and the Canons there serving God, my chief manor with all its appurtenances which I held in the parish of St. Sepulchre without Newgate in the suburb of London, which manor is situated between the land and houses belonging to Robert of Ludham, clerk, and the land and houses of William Taylor (Cissor). And the said manor contains in front next the high street 10½ ells, together with a few inches of the iron ells of King Henry the Third; and in length from the land of the aforesaid Robert of Ludham towards the east to the territory which belonged to Thomas Harang towards the west, 22½ ells, and one quarter, of the same ells; and in depth from the highway towards the north side to the land of the aforesaid Robert towards the south, it contains 19½ ells; and in width across the middle between the lands of the said Robert and William, 7½ ells, of the same ells; to wit, whatever I there held or could or ought to hold in length, and in breadth, in timbers, stones, buildings and all things, without any diminution. To have and to hold to the said Church and Canons, in pure and perpetual alms as much as pertains to me and to my heirs. Rendering therefor annually to Nicholas de Balsham, and to his heirs, one pound of cumin at Easter, for everything which can be exacted for or out of the land, for ever.

And I Thomas and my heirs will warrant [&c.] the said manor with its appurtenances, to the aforesaid Church and Canons against all Christians and Jews in pure and perpetual alms. And that this my gift [&c.] aforesaid may remain strong for ever, I have confirmed this charter by the impression of my seal. These being witnesses.



CHARTER OF WILLIAM BLUNDEL CONCERNING A MESSAGE IN THE PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL IN HANGENLANE  
AND ST. ZACARY.

Know all men present and to come, that I, William Blundel, clerk, have given [&c.] to God and to the Church of St. Mary of Oseney and the Canons there serving God and their successors, all that land with the houses thereon built and its appurtenances, which I bought of Thomas de Lasceles, and which I held in the parish of St. Michael of Honggenlane and in the parish of St. John of Zacary, London, together with an annual rent of 12*d.*, from a neighbouring house adjoining the Church of St. Michael aforesaid on the western side, to be paid annually in pure and perpetual alms. Which pence John of St. Helena about a year ago used to pay me for the aforesaid house and its appurtenances annually and quietly. And the said land [&c.] lies between the territory of Henry le Rus on the eastern side, and the land adjoining the New Temple, and that adjoining the Jerusalem Hospital in London on the western side, to wit, whatever I held [&c.] of stones [&c.] without any retention or diminution. To have and to hold to the said Church and Canons and their successors or to any one to whom they might wish to sell [&c.] or assign it, freely, quietly, wholly, well and in peace for ever. Rendering annually to the aforesaid Thomas and his heirs and assigns, one pound of pepper or six pence of silver, at Easter; and also to the Lord Bishop of Ely two shillings of silver; and to William de la More and his heirs, 3*s.* of silver, for all services [&c.]. And I the aforesaid William and my heirs and assigns will warrant [&c.] all the aforesaid land with houses thereon built and appurtenances, together with the aforesaid rent to the said Church and Canons, and their successors against all Christians and Jews, in pure and perpetual alms for ever. And that all these aforesaid may remain strong and stable for ever I have put my seal to the present charter. These being witnesses.

CHIROGRAPH BETWEEN US AND MR. THOMAS OF LICHESFELD DOCTOR, CONCERNING AN ANNUAL RENT  
OF THREE PENCE.

To all the faithful in Christ to whom the present writing shall come, Brother W., Abbot of Oseney, and the Convent of the same place, greeting in the Lord. Know ye all that we have given [&c.] to Master Thomas of Lichesfeld, all the land with the houses and appurtenances thereon built, which we held by the gift of Will. Blundell, in London, in the parishes of St. John of Zacary and St. Michael of Hoggenglane; which land with the houses and appurtenances thereon built lies between the land of Henry le Rus on the Eastern side, and the land belonging to the Jerusalem Hospital in London on the western side, to wit, whatever we held [&c.] without any retention or diminution. To have and to hold to the aforesaid Master Thomas and his heirs or to any one to whom they might wish to sell [&c.] it, from us and our successors, freely, quietly, wholly well and in peace for ever. Rendering annually to us and our successors, 3 pence at the Feast of St. Michael. And to Thomas de Lasceles and his heirs one pound of pepper or sixpence of silver at Easter. And to the Lord Bishop of Ely two shillings of silver. And to William de la More and his heirs, three shillings of silver, for all service [&c.]. And we and our successors will warrant [&c.] all the said land, with houses thereon built, with its appurtenances, to the aforesaid Master Thomas and his heirs and assigns against all Christians and Jews for ever. And for this our gift, &c., the aforesaid Thomas has given us 24 marks in payment. And that this our gift [&c.] (may remain strong and stable for ever) have confirmed the present writing by affixing the seal of our Chapter. These being witnesses.

CHARTER OF STEPHEN DE CORNHILL CONCERNING A HOUSE NEAR THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY OF BOTHAWE.

Know all men present and to come, that I, Stephen de Cornhill, for the honour of Our Lord Jesus Christ [&c.] have given, granted and by this my present charter confirmed to William, Lord Abbot of the Church of St. Mary of Oseney at Oxford, and to the Convent and its successors, there serving God, for the health of my soul and those of my heirs and assigns, a certain message of mine in the City of London, which message formerly belonged to Humfrey Duket. It lies between a message of mine on the northern side, and the Church of St. Mary of Bothawe on the southern side, stretching (Eastward towards a message of mine) and (Westward towards the King's highway). To have and to hold the aforesaid message with all its appurtenances of me and my heirs and assigns to the aforesaid Abbot and Convent and their successors, freely, quietly, well and in peace. Rendering annually to me and my heirs and assigns one clove gilliflower at Easter at the socage of our Lord the King six pence on the day of



St. Martin, and to the Prior of Holy Trinity, in London, half a mark at the 4 chief terms in the year. And 9s. to be paid at the said periods to the heirs of John de Betonia, for all service [&c.]. And I the aforesaid Stephen de Cornhull and my heirs and assigns will warrant [&c.] the said messuage against all persons for ever. In testimony whereof I have affixed my seal to the present writing. These being witnesses, &c.

Richard, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland to the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex greeting. We command you that the demand you make on Stephen Mazerer and Gilbert Clerk of Luton for lviis. vii<sup>d</sup>., required from them out of a remainder of £17. 19s. 6<sup>d</sup>. recovered against them out of the price of one and a half sacks xi stones and 1 pound of wool, forfeit to our Lord Edward late King of England, be altogether given up, and that any distraint you may have made on them on that account and anything you may have levied from them, be altogether released and be restored to the same. Witness R. de Plesyngton, at Westminster, 28 July in the 10th year of our reign. By the Great Roll in the 8th year of the King, now at London, where it is entered that the aforesaid Stephen and Gilbert are acquitted of the said debt.

*The Abbot and Convent hold divers rents in the City of London as is shown in the following Charters.*

CHARTER OF ROBERT LE VER, EARL OF OXFORD, CONCERNING A RENT OF FIVE SHILLINGS.

Know all present and to come that I, Robert de Ver, Earl of Oxford, have given, granted, and by this my present charter, confirmed to God and to the Church of St. Mary of Oseney and the Canons there serving God, a rent of 5s. in London; to wit, a rent of 3s. which Ralf, son of Edric of Alegate, used to pay to me for a tenement which the same Ralf held of me in the bailey of the Tower of London. And a rent of 2s. which William Chamberlegn used to pay to me for a tenement he held of me in Cokeslane, for the health of my soul and of the soul of Henry le Ver, my brother [&c.], in pure and perpetual charity. I have also granted to the same Canons whatever I had or may have had in the same tenements, and that they may hold [&c.] the aforesaid rent of 5 shillings well and in peace, freely [&c.] for ever. And I Robert, Earl of Oxford, and my heirs will warrant the aforesaid rent of 5s. to the said Canons against all persons. And that this my donation [&c.] may not be defrauded by the dishonesty of anyone, I have confirmed it by placing my seal to it. These being witnesses.

[Ball. Coll. Arch. 1.]

[B. 22, 10].

LONDON.

ST. LAWRENCE-JEWRY.

*Grant by SIR HUGH DE WYKHAMBROKE, Canon of the Church of St. Martin-le-Grand, to MASTER HENRY DE AFFEYTE, Clerk, for his life.*

A.D. 1287.

Anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Henrici quintodecimo. Die Sancti Petri ad Vincula ita convenit inter Dominum Hugonem de Wykhambroke; canonicum Ecclesie Sancti Martini Magni, Londoniis, ex parte una, et Magistrum Henricum le Affeyte, clericum, ex [parte] altera, videlicet, quod predictus Dominus Hugo concessit, dimisit, et presenti scripto suo confirmavit prefato Magistro Henrico totam domum illam cum gardino et pertinenciis quam habet in parochia Sancti Laurentii in Judeismo London', inter cimiterium ejusdem Ecclesie ex parte Australi, et Gyhallam London' ex parte Aquilonari, et tenementum predicti Domini Hugonis versus Orientem, et tenementum quod quondam fuit Isabelle Bokerel versus Occidentem. Habendam et tenendam predicto Magistro Henrico le Affeyte de prefato Domino Hugone, heredibus, et assignatis suis libere, quiete, bene, et in pace ad totam vitam ipsius Magistri Henrici. Reddendo inde annuatim prefato Domino Hugoni, heredibus et assignatis suis, sex denarios ad festum Sancti Michaelis pro omnibus servitiis consuetudinibus, exactionibus, et secularibus demandis.

NOTE.—[From the Cartulary of Osney Abbey, in the Archives of the Dean and Chapter of Christchurch (c. 1275). (MS. No. 24. fol. 379).]

Post decessum vero predicti Magistri Henrici prefata domus cum gardino et omnibus pertinentiis suis ut predictum est prefato Domino Hugoni, heredibus vel assignatis suis, quiete et solute, reverteret. In cujus rei testimonium partes predictæ presentî scripto cirographato alternatim sigilla sua apposuerunt. Hiis testibus, Domino Radulpho de Sandwyco tunc custode civitatis Londoniensis, Thoma Cros et Waltero Hauteyn tunc vicecomitibus Londoniarum, Petro de Norwyco, Waltero le Blond, Thoma le Fundur, Johanne Richemond, Thoma de Norwyco, Rogero de Bareber, Johanne le Bareber, tunc serviente illius Warde, Johanne clerico, et multis aliis.

(With fine oblong Seal.)

1287.

Endorsed :—

Concessio Domini Hugonis de Wykhambroke facta Domino Henrico la Feyte. Et est scriptum indentatum.

[‘ St. Laurent, London,’ in a late hand.]

TRANSLATION.

[Ball. Coll. Arch. 1.]

[B. 22, 10.]

LONDON.

ST. LAWRENCE-JEWRY.

*Grant by SIR HUGH DE WYKHAMBROKE, Canon of the Church of St. Martin-le-Grand, to MASTER HENRY LE AFFEYTE, Clerk, for his life.* A.D. 1287.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of King Edward, son of King Henry, on the day of St. Peter ad Vincula, it is thus agreed between Sir Hugh de Wykhambroke, Canon of the Church of St. Martin-le-Grand, London, of the one part and Master Henry le Affeyte, clerk, of the other part, to wit, that the aforesaid Sir Hugh granted, demised, and by his present writing confirmed to the aforesaid Master Henry all that house with the garden and appurtenances which he has in the parish of St. Laurence in the Jewry, London, between the churchyard of the same church on the south part, and the Guildhall of London on the north part, and the tenement of the aforesaid Sir Hugh towards the east, and the tenement which formerly belonged to Isabella Bokerel towards the west. To have and to hold to the aforesaid Master Henry le Affeyte of the aforesaid Sir Hugh, his heirs and assigns, freely, quietly, well and in peace for the whole life of the same Master Henry. Rendering therefor yearly to the aforesaid Sir Hugh, his heirs and assigns, six pence at the feast of St. Michael for all services, customs, exactions and secular demands. And after the decease of the aforesaid Master Henry the aforesaid house with the garden and all its appurtenances, as is aforesaid, shall revert to the aforesaid Sir Hugh, his heirs or assigns, quietly and freely. In witness whereof the aforesaid parties have alternately placed their seals to the present chirograph writing. These being witnesses—Sir Ralph of Sandwich, then Keeper of the City of London, Thomas Cros and Walter Hauteyn, then Sheriffs of London, Peter of Norwich, Walter le Blond, Thomas le Fundur, John Richemond, Thomas of Norwich, Roger le Bareber, John le Bareber, then Serjeant of that ward, John the clerk, and many others.

Endorsed :

Grant of Sir Hugh de Wykhambroke made to Sir Henry la Feyte. And the writing is indented.

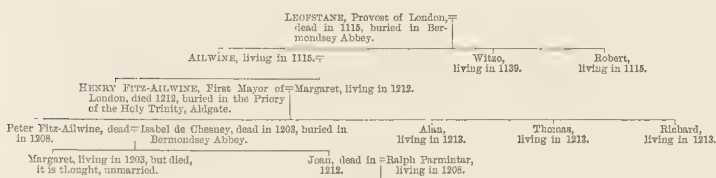
(CHANCERY. INQUISITION AD QUOD DAMNUM, 27 EDW. 3. No. 57. A.D. 1353.)

Inquisicio capta coram Adam fraunceys Maiore Ciuitatis London' et Escaetore domini Regis in eadem Ciuitate die Martis in festo sancti Barnabe Apostoli Anno regni regis Edwardi tercii post conquestum vicesimo septimo per breve domini Regis huic Inquisitioni consutum de omnibus articulis in eodem brevi contentis per sacramentum Johannis de Hynton Willielmi de Swalclay . . . Ade de Chepstele Johannis Letton' Sampsonis de Swafham Johannis Wenge Thome Basset Johannis de Benteles Willielmi Tomer Ade Pricet Johannis Phipp . . . Willielmi atte Brome Qui dicunt super sacramentum suum quod non est ad dampnum vel preiudicium domini Regis nec aliorum si idem dominus Rex concedat Petro ff . . . fraunceys et Henrico de ffrowyk quod ipsi unum Mesuagium cum pertinentiis in parochia sancti Vedasti in Warda de ffarndon' London' dare possint et assignare Willielmo de Brampton' Capellano Custodi cuiusdam Cantarie per ipsos in Capella beate Marie Gihalde London' contigua de nouo fundande et quatuor aliis Capellanis ibidem iuxta ordinacionem ipsorum Petri Ade et Henrici inde iuxta ordinacionem predictam celebraturis imperpetuum Dicunt eciam quod non

est ad dampnum vel preiudicium domini Regis nec aliorum si idem dominus Rex concedat quod iidem Adam et Henricus concedere possint quod vnum Mesuagium cum pertinenciis in parochia sancti Egidii extra portam de Crepelgate London' quod prefatus Petrus tenet ad terminum vite sue de hereditate dictorum Ade et Henrici et quod post mortem ipsius Petri ad prefatos Adam et Henricum reueri deberet remaneat prefatis Custodi et Capellanis et successoribus suis imperpetuum Dicunt etiam quod non est ad dampnum nec preiudicium domini Regis nec aliorum si idem dominus Rex concedat quod predicti Petrus Adam et Henricus concedere possint quod octo marcate redditus cum pertinenciis in predictis parochiis quas Margareta que fuit vxor Galfridi atte Lee tenet ad terminum vite sue de hereditate dictorum Petri Ade et Henrici et que post mortem ipsius Margarete ad prefatos Petrum Adam et Henricum reueri deberent post mortem eiusdem Margarete remaneant prefatis Custodi et Capellanis et successoribus suis predictis Habendum et tenendum vna cum dicto Mesuagio in predicta parochia sancti Egidii in auxilium sustentacionis sue imperpetuum. Dicunt etiam quod predicta duo Mesuagia tenentur de domino Rege in liberum burgagium sicut tota Ciuitas London' et quod predicta Mesuagia valent in omnibus exitibus per annum sexdecim libras tres solidos et quatuor denarios sterlingorum Inde debent subtrahi de Mesuagio in parochia sancti Vedasti quinquaginta tres solidi et quatuor denarii annui et quieti redditus Soluendi Priori et Conuentui Hospitalis beate Marie extra Bishopesgate London' et tresdecem solidi et quatuor denarii annui et quieti et redditus soluendi Priori et Conuentui sancti Bartholomei de Smethefeld' London' et centum sex solidi et octo denarii annui et quieti redditus soluendi Margarete que fuit vxor Galfridi atte Lee ad terminum vite eiusdem Margarete Dicunt etiam quod de predicto Mesuagio in parochia sancti Egidii extra portam de Crepelgate debent subtrahi quatuor solidi annui et quieti redditus soluendi Prebendario de la More in ecclesia sancti Pauli London' et pro reparacione domorum de predictis duobus Mesuagiis sexaginta solidi sterlingorum per annum Et sic valent predicta duo Mesuagia quiete per annum durante tota vita ipsius Margarete quatuor libras et sex solidos sterlingorum et post mortem eiusdem Margarete valebunt quiete per annum nouem libras duodecim solidos et octo denarios sterlingorum Dicunt etiam quod non est aliquis medius inter dominum Regem et predictos Petrum Adam et Henricum de mesuagiis predictis Dicunt etiam quod terre et tenementa eisdem Petro Ade et Henrico remanencia vltra donacionem et assignacionem predictas sufficiunt ad consuetudines et seruicia tam de predictis tenementis sic datis quam de aliis terris et tenementis sibi retentis debita facienda et ad omnia alia onera que sustinerint et sustinere consueuerint et quod iidem Petrus Adam et Henricus in assisis iuratis et aliis recognicionibus quibuscumque poni possint prout ante donacionem et assignacionem predictas poni consueuerint et quod patria per donacionem et assignacionem predictas ipsorum Petri Ade et Henrici defectum magis solito non onerabitur in aliquo seu granabitur In cuius rei testimonium Juratores predicti huic Inquisicioni sigilla sua apposuerunt Datum London' die et anno supradictis.<sup>1</sup>

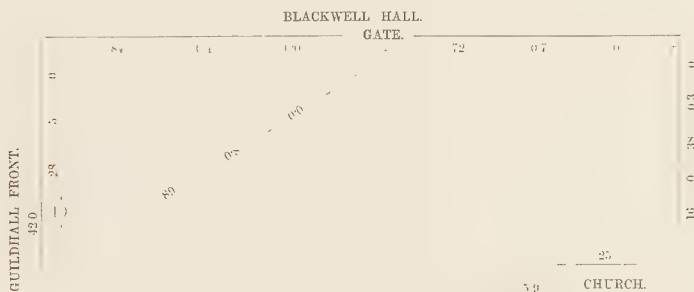
## PEDIGREE OF HENRY FITZ-AILWINE,

FIRST LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.



From this interesting Pedigree, it appears that Leofstane<sup>2</sup> was buried in Bermondsey Abbey, and further that the son surviving him was named Ailwine; this latter name was closely connected with the Priory of Holy Trinity, for the founder of the house appears to have been one Alwin Child, a citizen of London, who established the Monastery as early as the year 1089, for the benefit of monks of the Cluniac Order.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See Ante, p. 112.<sup>2</sup> See Ante, p. 37.<sup>3</sup> See "Annales Monastici," Edited by H. R. Luard, M.A., vol. iii, p. 36.





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## CORRIGENDA.

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- Page 66, 2nd line from bottom, for "diarists" *read* "writers."
- Page 81, 2nd line from bottom, for "Statesmen" *read* "Statesman."
- Page 85, 15th line from top, for "1870" *read* "1868."
- Page 94, 1st line, for "1837" *read* "1827."
- Page 99, 5th line from bottom, for "freize" *read* "frieze."
- Page 116, 23rd line from top, for "again in 1356" *read* "1353."
- Page 159, 9th line from bottom, *read* "Sir John Hadley, Grocer, 1379 and 1393."
- Page 171, 11th line from top, for "in this reign" *read* "in his reign."
- Page 173, 11th line from bottom, for "Item is" *read* "Item it is."
- Page 174, 3rd line from bottom, for "Sir Thomas Campbell" *read* "Cambell."
- last line, for "married the daughter of" *read* "his daughter married."
- Page 175, 18th line from top, for "Tulsham" *read* "Fulsham."
- Page 177, 15th line from bottom, for "Painters-stainers" *read* "Painter Stainers."
- 12th line from bottom dele the comma after "Her Majesty."
- Page 193, 10th line from bottom, for "Prince and Princess Anne of Denmark"  
*read* "Prince and Princess of Denmark."















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